The participation of men and women with disabilities in political life in Senegal: Endline study

November 2022

Irish Aid
Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Sightsavers

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The authors thank all members of the fieldwork teams for their vital contributions to the study, in particular the study coordinator Dr Jean Tine and the team supervisors, Abdoulaye Diome, Secou Coly, Moussa Gning and Djibril Toure.

Citation

Pente V, Jeyam A, Bocoum S, Ba K, Bechange S, Jolley E, Schmidt E. The participation of men and women with disabilities in political life in Senegal: Endline study. Haywards Heath (UK): Sightsavers. 2022.

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List of abbreviations

CENA	Independent National Electoral Commission
CNERS	National Ethical Committee for Health Research
CSO	Civil society organisation
DGAS	General Directorate of Social Action
FSAPH	Senegalese Federation of Associations of Persons with Disabilities
ICF	International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health
OR	Odds ratio
SOP	Standard operating procedures
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme

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Executive summary

The political participation project was launched in Senegal in 2017. Its main objective is to help the country achieve its democratic priorities by promoting an inclusive political environment. This project seeks to address the low levels of engagement and representation of people with disabilities in political life.

What did we do in this study?

We measured the level of political participation among adults aged 18 and older, both with and without disabilities. We explored the relationship between disability and participation in elections, membership of political parties, and engagement in political debate. Our goal was to study the impact of the political participation project between 2017 and 2021 and shed light on our future programmatic activities.

Where did we do it?

We conducted the study in four urban areas of Senegal: Dakar (Pikine district), Kaffrine, Kaolack and Louga.

How did we do it?

We conducted a population-based cross-sectional study of adults aged 18 years and older. The investigative tool comprised four sections:

1) sociodemographic characteristics
2) households' economic situation
3) disability, assessed using the short version of the Washington Group question set
4) political participation, controlling for the following factors: possession of key documents (birth certificate, identity (ID) card, voter registration card); being registered to vote; having participated in previous elections; being a member of a political party; and regularly discussing politics.

In our statistical analyses to compare the political participation of people with and without disabilities, we controlled for differences in the age, sex, education and location of participants.

Key findings

A total of 4,723 participants were interviewed: 15 % in Dakar (Pikine), 12 % in Kaffrine, 51 % in Kaolack and 22 % in Louga. The average age of the participants was 38 years and 64 % of the participants were female. The prevalence of functional disability among participants stood at 11 %. Mobility disabilities were the most common disability among participants (6 %).

Prevalence of disability

Disability was more prevalent among women (12 %) than among men (8 %). This prevalence also increases with age. More people with disabilities had never attended school (51 %) than people without disabilities (35 %). People with disabilities had similar socio-economic status to people without disabilities.

Political participation

Possession of key documents for effective participation

- Overall, 96 % of participants had a birth certificate and 83 % possessed a national identity card. In total, 66 % were registered to vote and 69 % had a valid voter registration card.
- Controlling for age, sex, education, and location of the study, we found that people with disabilities were about **2.2 times less likely to have a birth certificate** and **twice as likely to lack a national ID card** than people without disabilities. People with disabilities were also **2.7 times less likely to be registered to vote** and **2.6 times less likely to have a voter registration card** than people without disabilities.

Participation in past elections

- Overall, 64 % of participants had voted at least once, 25 % were members of a citizen movement, 27 % were members of an economic association, 11 % were members of a political party and 41 % discussed politics on a regular basis. A total of 11 % of participants had attended or observed town hall meetings and 18 % had attended or observed meetings of their local religious council.
- People with disabilities were **2.9 times less likely to have ever voted in an election** and **1.4 times less likely to be a member of an economic association** than people without disabilities. Nevertheless, people with disabilities were **1.6 times more likely to have attended or observed a town hall meeting** than people without disabilities.

Implications for programmes

Despite the fact that numerous activities – including awareness-raising, training, financial support and advocacy – were implemented throughout this political participation project with the involvement of key stakeholders at the national and community levels, the endline study showed no significant change in the gaps between people with and without disabilities in terms of possession of the administrative documents required to vote.

The results show that people with disabilities are less likely to meet the basic administrative requirements for voting – i.e., having a valid birth certificate, national ID card and voter registration card – than people without disabilities. Our findings suggest that our programmes should place more emphasis on supporting people with disabilities to address these challenges.

Disability organisations can play a key role in the political participation of people with disabilities by facilitating access to essential government documents and thereby increasing their participation in elections and other aspects of political life.

Introduction

Political engagement can be viewed from several angles: participation, community participation, citizen participation, the voice of the people and local development (1). The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) defines participation as a situation in which individuals are closely involved in the economic, social, cultural, and political processes that affect their lives (2). Participation can be individual or collective through formal or informal channels and generally consists of expressing demand, making choices, and getting involved in local projects at the community level (3). The right to participate in political and public life is fundamental to achieving democratic governance, social inclusion and inclusive economic development, and to realizing human rights.

Article 25 (a) and (b) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights recognizes the right of every citizen "to take part in the conduct of public affairs", "to vote and to be elected at genuine periodic elections which shall be by universal and equal suffrage" (4).

However, inequalities in political participation are widespread, including those resulting from direct and/or indirect discrimination on grounds such as sex, disability and social status (5).

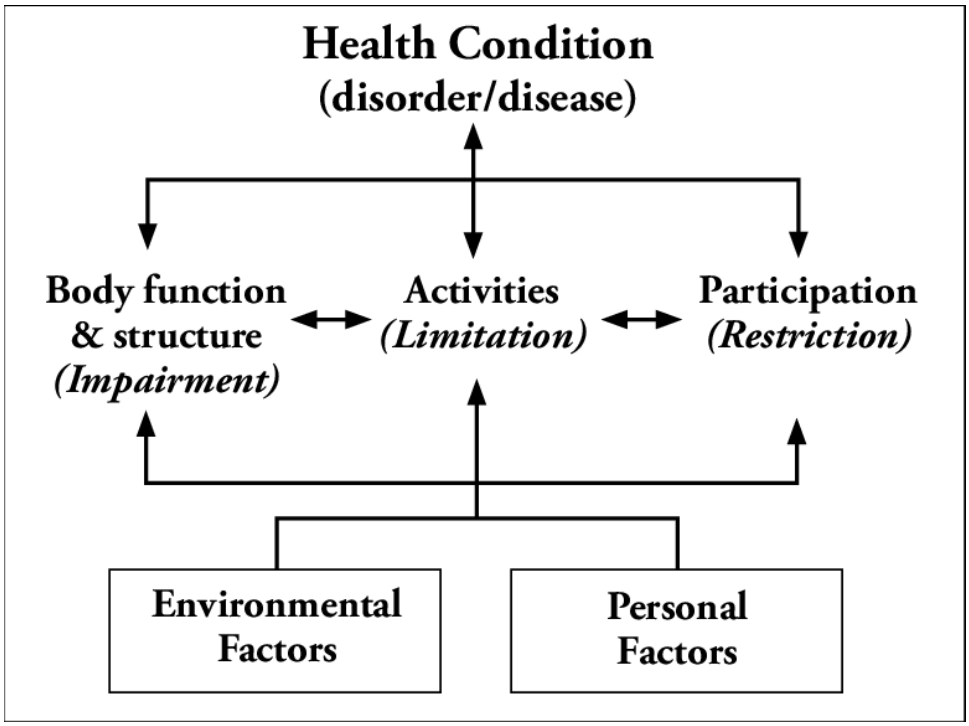
People with disabilities are known to be particularly vulnerable to social exclusion. In addition, relatively little is known about how people with disabilities participate in decision-making at the community, regional and national levels. This is also true of the role that people with disabilities play in decision-making on issues that affect their well-being.

Article 29 (a) and (b) of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities emphasizes the importance of people with disabilities' political participation, highlighting their right to full and effective participation in "political and public life on an equal basis with others" as well as "the conduct of public affairs, without discrimination" (6).

However, there are challenges associated with measuring disability. In the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) model (Figure 1), functioning and disability are considered to be the results of interactions between health factors such as diseases, disorders and injuries and contextual factors such as social attitudes (7). In addition, the ICF framework describes the influence of personal factors as well as environmental, physical and social factors that act as either barriers or facilitators to an individual's functioning.

This multidimensional model of disability provides a useful perspective on the links between activity limitations caused by health conditions and/or impairments, and restrictions on individual participation, for example, in community, social and civic life.

Figure 1: International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health Model. World Health Organization



Political participation and disability in Senegal

Senegal adopted a multiparty system in 1981. The separation of the executive, legislative and judicial branches is enshrined in the 2001 Constitution. These branches are represented by the various institutions listed in article 6 of the Constitution (8). Power is shared between the executive branch, comprising the President of the Republic and of the Government; the legislative branch, comprising members of the National Assembly; and the judicial branch, comprising the courts of justice and tribunals (8).

In a democracy such as Senegal, participation in elections is one means of political participation. Other means by which citizens may influence decision-making include joining a political party, signing petitions, participating in political movements by demonstrating, attending public meetings, boycotting certain products, providing financial support to a political cause and becoming active in a trade union or civil society organisation (9).

Senegal signed the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2006 and ratified it in 2010. To meet the convention's requirements, the Senegalese Government has developed a number of laws and policies focusing on disability, including the Social Framework Act on people with disabilities (10). This act calls for the equal participation of people with disabilities and organisations of people with disabilities in the design, implementation and evaluation of public policies and programmes. Citizen participation is also recognised as an essential element of the decision-making process in the Third Act on decentralisation[1] (11), while the 2010 Act on absolute parity between men and women encourages the participation of women, particularly women with disabilities, in public life.

Senegal has also committed to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and will be required to explain how people at higher risk of marginalisation, including people with disabilities, have benefited from such development (12).

Context of the study

The total population of Senegal was estimated at 17,738,795 people in 2022 (13), of whom around 41.7 % were aged under 15 years and around 3.2 % were aged over 65 (14). A recent 2017 study estimated that 11.7 % of people have a disability (15). In Senegal, as in most countries in sub-Saharan Africa, people with disabilities suffer stigma and discrimination at various levels of society (16). They are vulnerable to serious health problems and less likely to be educated or employed (16).

A systematic review of how inclusive elections are for people with disabilities in Africa conducted by Sightsavers in 2017 identified the barriers people with disabilities face to participating fully in politics: (i) a lack of education and financial resources; (ii) stigmatisation and negative social attitudes; (iii) issues around the physical accessibility of registration points and polling stations; and (iv) disability-specific barriers (17). In Senegal, people with disabilities face similar difficulties. Data on the participation of people with disabilities, as well as the modes of their participation, remain scant in Senegal. Their participation is mostly limited to voting (17).

[1] The Third Act on decentralisation aims to introduce a structure of viable and competitive territories in Senegal that facilitate sustainable development by 2022. The general objective is to develop a new national decentralisation policy that allows viable and competitive territories that facilitate sustainable development to be established.

Despite the multiple legal frameworks, the enforcement of laws and implementation of provisions relating to people with disabilities remain problematic. People with disabilities remain under-represented in decision-making bodies and less involved in political life (17). Although the reasons for this are multiple and complex, barriers to participation include the lack of key documentation, such as birth certificates, national identity cards and voter registration cards (15). Moreover, low levels of education among people with disabilities; social attitudes, including stigmatisation and discrimination; and the physical accessibility of registration points and polling stations to people with disabilities have proved to be significant barriers to their political engagement (17).

Since 2012, Sightsavers has been implementing projects aiming to increase and improve the political participation of people with disabilities in the regions of Louga, Kaolack, Kaffrine and Dakar (Pikine), in partnership with the Government and local civil society organisations and organisations of people with disabilities.

In order to refine a political participation project, a baseline study was undertaken in 2017 to provide reliable data on the participation of people with disabilities in political life in the four aforementioned regions. The purpose of this study was to assess the level of political participation of voting-age adults (aged 18 years and older), including people with and without disabilities, in order to inform programme activities and advocacy. This endline study will help to identify the changes that have occurred alongside the activities implemented and to realign the next round of activities with the current reality.

Programme on political participation in Senegal

The Irish Government is funding a project on the effective participation in public and political life of women and men with disabilities for the 2017–2022 period. The project aims to strengthen civil and political rights by increasing participation by women and men with disabilities in inclusive local and national democratic processes. The project is running in the regions of Dakar – more precisely, Pikine North and East – Kaolack, Kaffrine and Louga.

It aims to i) increase the political participation of women and men with disabilities by promoting their representation and active participation in local development mechanisms and in elections and ii) achieve effective participation and representation in decision-making bodies by:

- investing in disability-sensitive policies at the local level.

- advocating for accessible political spaces.
- building stakeholders' capacity to include people with disabilities.
- tackling discrimination and stigmatisation.

Through its objectives, the project underpins systemic changes at the micro, meso and macro levels.

The project is implemented by the Senegalese Federation of Associations of Persons with Disabilities, in partnership with the General Directorate of Social Action of the Ministry of Health and Social Action.

As part of intervention implementation, flagship activities have been carried out and have led to an increase in the inclusion of people with disabilities and, for example, their umbrella organisations within civil society, women's associations, and local and institutional authorities. These flagship activities include awareness-raising campaigns, capacity-building sessions, local development, and advocacy.

Awareness-raising campaigns

The Senegalese Federation of Associations of Persons with Disabilities, supported by civil society, has conducted awareness-raising campaigns through the media and home visits at the national level and in the project's regions of intervention. These activities sought to increase understanding of the importance and impact of the inclusion of people with disabilities on the civil registry, political parties' lists and the electoral roll. Thus, to date, 637 people with disabilities have registered to vote in presidential and legislative elections, 231 are on political parties' lists and 918 have been supported in obtaining their birth certificate.

Capacity-building sessions

The objective of this approach is to strengthen the technical capacities of people with disabilities, at both the national and local levels, with regard to their understanding of the law, civic responsibilities, the electoral process, participation in political debate, local development, leadership, gender, civic action, advocacy and local government management. The main results of these interventions are:

- Accreditation in Building Resources in Democracy, Governance and Elections of 12 members of the Senegalese Federation of Associations of Persons with Disabilities through the Gorée Institute.
- training of 253 members of civil society in inclusion and joint advocacy for the respect of the rights of people with disabilities.
- training for 61 journalists on inclusion and treatment of disability in the media.
- capacity-building for 279 local government representatives on disability management and inclusion.
- capacity-building for 310 members of organisations of people with disabilities on law and citizenship, electoral process, participation in political debate, advocacy, leadership, and local development.

Local development

Two flagship activities under the local development component should be mentioned:

- The Inclusive Awards, which are given to local councils in the intervention areas with the highest number of inclusive initiatives, based on a number of criteria. The awards are held at the national level and involve different stakeholders.
- The drafting of a guide on disability-sensitive participatory budgeting for local governments and a booklet on the same topic for people with disabilities.

Advocacy

Given the particular nature of the project on the political and civic participation of people with disabilities, it requires advocacy at all levels of politics and society. This has required the Senegalese Federation of Associations of Persons with Disabilities, in cooperation with civil

society, to undertake a number of advocacy activities targeted towards decision makers, the General Directorate of Elections, the General Directorate of Social Action and local authorities to promote the participation of people with disabilities in national dialogue, in debates at the local authority level, in parliament and in implementing the Social Framework Act.

This advocacy has led to a review of the Electoral Code to render voting more accessible to people with disabilities and a review of decrees and ministerial orders relating to the implementation of the Social Framework Act. It has also resulted in the participation of more than 60 people with disabilities in local authorities' debates and work, the establishment of a network of parliamentarians to promote the inclusion of people with disabilities and, lastly, the adhesion of the Senegalese Federation of Associations of Persons with Disabilities to the African Peer Review Mechanism, with two representatives.

Purpose and objective of the research

The purpose of this research project was to assess the level of political participation of adults aged 18 and older, including people with and without disabilities, in order to inform programmatic and advocacy activities and to observe changes resulting from the implementation of the political participation project in selected regions of Senegal. It also aimed to enrich the existing knowledge base on the political participation of people with and without disabilities in Senegal.

More specifically, the research aimed to:

- determine the proportion of the adult population participating in national and local elections, local decision-making processes, governance institutions and political parties in selected regions of Senegal;
- compare the levels of political participation of people with and without disabilities;
- identify the sociodemographic factors that influence the political participation of people with and without disabilities;
- identify barriers to the equal political participation of people with and without disabilities;
- assess the changes in the different levels of political participation between the baseline study and the endline project study;
- provide evidence to the social inclusion programme in order to support advocacy in Senegal.

Methodology

Study type

A population-based cross-cutting study was conducted in four regions of Senegal where the political participation project is being implemented: Louga, Kaolack, Kaffrine and Dakar (Pikine North and East).

Figure 2: Location of the study sites

Study population and sampling method

This study involved people of voting age (18 years and older) with and without disabilities.

The sample size was calculated in order to detect a 10 % change in the proportion of people with disabilities who voted in a national election compared to the baseline study (18). Therefore, based on the fact that the baseline study found that 21.6 % of people aged 18 years and older with a self-

reported disability reported voting in national or municipal elections, and on the disability prevalence rate of 11.7 % estimated during that baseline study, a 95 % confidence interval (CI), a power of 80 % and a 10 % non-response rate, we aimed to recruit 4,250 participants in the four regions.

A two-stage sampling methodology was used. The first stage was the random selection of residential areas in the four regions based on a probability proportional to size. During the second stage, a random-walk method was used to select households in each area. All eligible adult members of the households who were present at the time of the survey were invited to participate.

Description of the data-collection tools

Data were collected using a questionnaire comprising four sections: household characteristics, to be completed with the head of the household; sociodemographic characteristics, to be completed with all adults aged 18 years or older in the household; an assessment of disability among all the adults aged 18 years or older; and political participation, to be completed with all adults aged 18 years or older.

French is the official language and the language used in education in Senegal. It co-exists in daily life with the 21 national languages that have been codified, including Pulaar, Serer, Mandinka, Soninke, Jola and, of course, Wolof, which is the lingua franca spoken by a large portion of the population (85 %) and which has become the language of daily communication in trade and the media (19). The study questionnaire was therefore translated into Wolof, then backtranslated into French and piloted. This step allowed for final versions of the data-collection tools to be developed in French and English before ultimately being translated into Wolof. Cognitive testing of the Washington Group short and extended sets of questions on functioning was also conducted to determine whether the questions were understood by respondents as intended. The cognitive interviews provided valuable insight into the performance of our survey tools and allowed us to identify consistent response errors. The question interpretation models allowed us to make the necessary changes to the wording, word order and/or inclusion of questions in the endline survey.

Functional disability assessment: The Washington Group Short Set on Functioning was used to measure functional disability (20) (appendix 2). The Washington Group questions were designed to provide nationally comparable data relating to populations with different cultures and varying economic resources (20). The tool measures functional difficulty and has been tested in at least 78 countries worldwide. The questions are based on the International Classification of Functioning,

Disability and Health and are intended to measure the prevalence of difficulties in performing certain tasks. Disability is determined by participants' responses to six questions relating to the six functional domains: seeing, hearing, mobility, communication, self-care, and cognition (remembering). Responses are given on a four-point scale: no, no difficulty; yes, some difficulty; yes, a lot of difficulty or cannot do it at all. The Washington Group on Disability Statistics recommends that participants who respond "yes, a lot of difficulty" or "cannot do it at all" to at least one of the six domains should be classified as having a disability.

Senegal equity assessment tool/poverty assessment form: Equity is complex and difficult to measure, and several measurement tools were used, including the Senegal equity assessment tool and a question on the economic ladder.

The equity assessment tool measures participants' relative wealth and was used to measure their economic status. It is an internationally recognised tool designed to assess socio-economic differences between social groups by placing them in one of five wealth quintiles, the first being the poorest and the fifth the richest (21). This simple, easy-to-use tool for measuring relative wealth allows study participants or programme beneficiaries to be compared to the rest of the population, or to the rest of the urban population if the tool is applied in an urban setting. The tool has been validated for use in more than 30 countries, including Senegal (appendix 3). Note that the data of the equity tools used in this study are those of 2013

As a test, and to provide an alternative to the assets/capital dimension, a subjective assessment of economic status was conducted using a question on the economic ladder. Using a visual aid, participants were asked to place themselves on the ladder (appendix 5), with the top rungs (eight, nine, ten) representing the wealthiest people in the community and the bottom rungs (one, two, three) representing the poorest. This question allowed us to obtain a self-assessment of relative poverty (22). Given that this additional tool was applied only in the final phase, only the results of the equity tool are presented in this report so as to ensure consistency with the 2017 baseline study. The results relating to the economic ladder will be presented in future analyses.

Political participation questionnaire: The political participation questionnaire, which is specific to the Senegalese context and was developed for the baseline study, was adjusted to collect data in the endline study. The questionnaire comprised questions on the possession of the documents required to participate in elections, including birth certificates and national identity cards, registration on the electoral roll, the possession of a voter registration card, participation in the most recent elections, involvement in national and local political parties and municipal councils and

participation in organisations of people with disabilities, for respondents with disabilities. Other aspects of political participation were also explored, such as membership of citizen movements and participation in other groups that influence decision-making, such as religious committees and economic associations.

Data management

Data collectors received five days' training on the following areas: the study's design and methodology, its standard operating procedures, ethical issues, crisis management, quantitative interviews and the use of telephones for data collection. The training also included a session on administering the Washington Group questions. All tools were designed to be used on touch-screen mobile devices (encrypted and password-protected smartphones). All data were uploaded to a central server and backed up daily on the CommCare platform. This process ensures security and minimises data loss if a field device is lost or broken. Data quality was guaranteed by integrating the algorithms into the software to ensure consistency in the responses, and the data collected were reviewed each day. That review focused on particular specific information, such as the name of the data collector, the number of interviews conducted, the time of the first and last interviews, the number of locations visited, the Global Positioning System (GPS) coordinates, the average time taken per interview and errors and comments relating to the data. In the event of an error, this information was shared with the data-collection team so that the data collection could be followed up and monitored.

Data-collection procedures

The data-collection procedure was as follows: when the team arrived at a household, the data collectors introduced themselves to the head of the household and explained the study using the study information sheet. Consent was then obtained, and the household survey undertaken with the head of household to assess the household's wealth. After the household survey, the data collector determined the number of people eligible to participate in the study and then carried out the individual interviews. Each participant had to give their consent before the start of each interview. Interviews were conducted in private spaces within the household, although the considerable variation in household conditions meant that some interviews were conducted outside in a convenient private space that allowed for one-on-one interviewing.

Data analysis

The data were cleaned and analysed using Stata 16 and R-4.1.2 software. The results were presented in the form of descriptive statistics for the main political participation indicators. Descriptive statistics were disaggregated by sex, disability and study location. Owing to a programmatic interest in the young adult group (ages 18–35 inclusive), we also presented these results disaggregated by binary age (young adults and older adults).

The comparison of crude proportions may lead to inaccurate conclusions if confounders are present. For example, the crude proportion of people who have voted may be higher among people with disabilities. However, this proportion is also higher among older adults than young adults, and the prevalence of disability increases with age. To account for the effect of potential confounders, multivariate logistic regression models were used to examine the relationship between the primary variable – disability – and political participation variables, adjusting for age, study location, education level and sex. The results of these logistic regression models allow for political participation among people with and without disabilities to be compared more accurately. Those results are presented in the form of odds ratios and 95 % confidence intervals.

The odds ratio used in the results demonstrates whether and to what extent, roughly, people with disabilities are more or less likely to participate in various political processes compared to people without disabilities.

Cluster sampling was accounted for when calculating results using the R software's survey package. We did not use weighting or imputation for missing data.

The aforementioned logistic regression models examine the relationship between the explanatory variables and the dependent variable, controlling for the explanatory variables independently. However, in reality, some variables such as sex and disability may interact, and the effects of disability may differ for men and women. To explore the interactions between sex and disability, as well as youth and disability, with regard to political participation, we included an interaction term in the logistic models. We then used a Rao-Scott likelihood ratio test to determine whether the interaction term was statistically significant. The sex/disability and youth/disability interaction terms were tested in separate models. When the interaction was significant, we examined the results of the models within the different subgroups to explore how the relationship between disability and political participation varied by group.

Ethical considerations

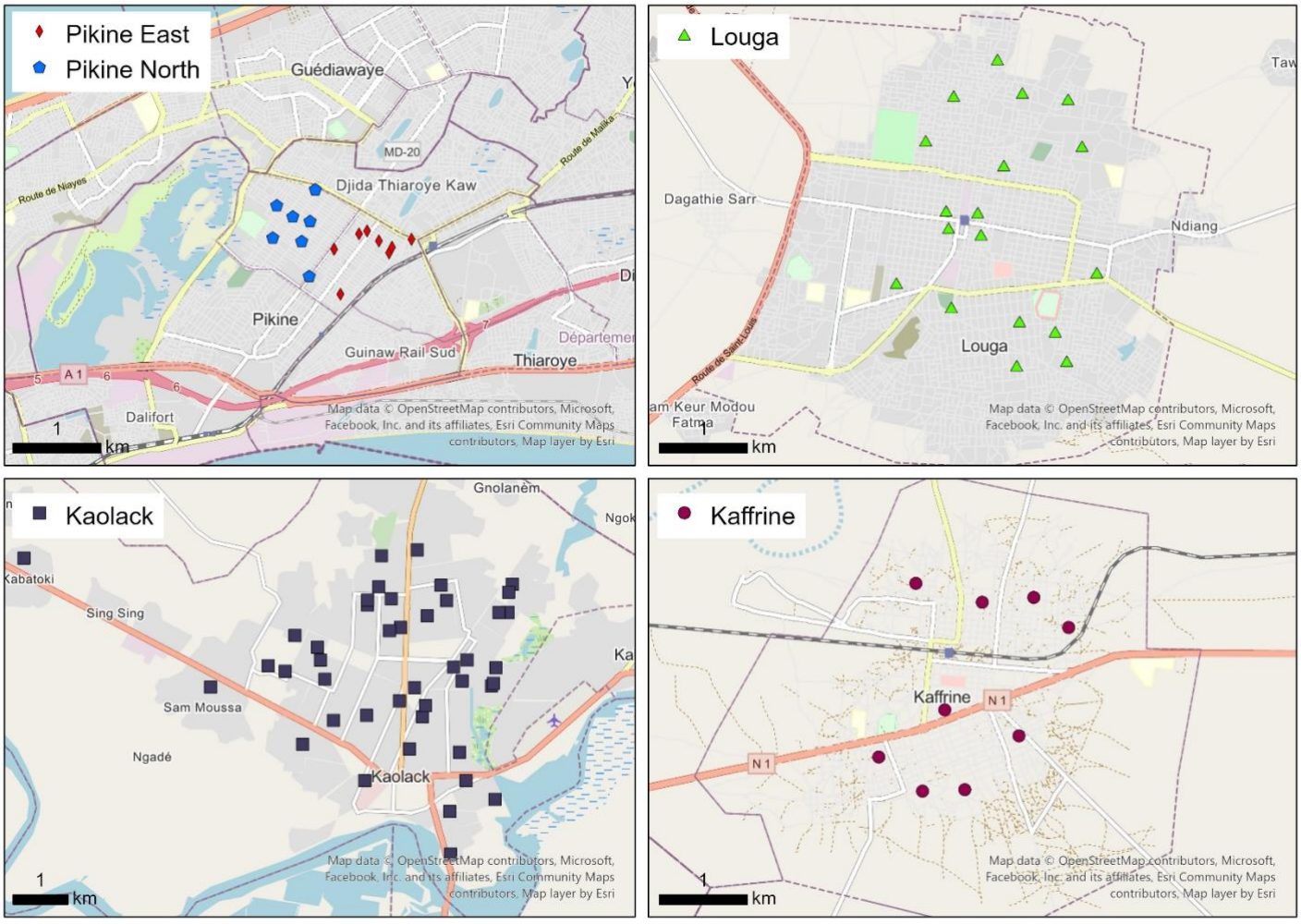
Ethical clearance for this study was obtained from the National Committee of Health Research Ethics of the Ministry of Health and Social Action of Senegal with reference number 00000085/MSAS/CNERS/SP of 8 June 2021. Informed consent was obtained anonymously from all participants in the language of their choice (French or Wolof) and documented. A unique identification number was assigned to each participant. No identifiable data, such as names or addresses, were collected. Participants were also informed of the objectives of the study, the voluntary and confidential nature of participation, the types of questions asked and the risks and benefits of participating. Specific adjustments and support were provided to enable people with disabilities to participate fully and safely in the research. For example, a sign language interpreter was hired to assist data collectors should they encounter a deaf participant in a household. For participants with intellectual or communication impairments, a household member able to understand and interpret their gestures was invited to assist the data collector during the interview.

Results

Sample characteristics

The sample comprised 4,723 survey participants aged 18 and older (the voting age in Senegal). The sample included 568 participants in Kaffrine (12 %), 2,404 participants in Kaolack (50.9 %), 1,029 participants in Louga (21.8 %) and 722 participants in Pikine (15.3 %).

Figure 3: Overview of the different clusters by region



The mean age of the sample was 38 years, with a median age of 33 years and an age range of 18 to 98 years. There were 3,016 female participants (63.9 %).

Table 1 shows that 37.1 % of the participants had never attended school, a proportion that was higher among women (40.7 %) than men (30.9 %). The proportion of those with a university education was observed to be higher among men (13.6 %) than women (4.5 %). Most participants reported being in acceptable (49.7 %) or excellent (39.7 %) health.

In terms of occupation, workers in a sector other than agriculture or fishing made up the largest group (35.7 %), followed by participants engaged in household or family responsibilities (22.9 %). There were significant differences between men and women in terms of occupation: more men (46.1 %) than women (29.8 %) worked in a sector other than agriculture or fishing. On the other hand, more women were engaged in household or family responsibilities (35.4 % versus just 0.9 % of men). The proportion of people in training or education was higher among men (19.3 %) than women (12.6 %), as was the proportion of retirees (8.1 % of men versus 3.6 % of women).

The study sample was wealthier than the general urban population of Senegal: based on the urban quintiles from the equity tool, just 17.2 % of participants were in the poorest quintiles. It is important to note, however, that the equity tool for Senegal is based on Demographic and Health Survey data from 2013, and the information that it provides may not, therefore, reflect the current situation.

Table 1: Sample characteristics – overall and by sex

Age (years)	Median (interquartile range (IQR))	33 (23; 50)			33 (23; 48)			33 (23; 50)	
		N	**%**	**[95%CI]**	**N**	**%**	**[95%CI]**	**N**	**%**	**[95%CI]**
Location	Kaffrine	568	12	[5.6; 23.9]	363	12	[5.6; 23.9]	205	12	[5.5; 24.2]
	Kaolack	2,404	50.9	[36.9; 64.7]	1,507	50.0	[35.9; 64.1]	897	52.6	[38.5; 66.2]
	Louga	1,029	21.8	[11.4; 37.6]	681	22.6	[11.8; 38.9]	348	20.4	[10.6; 35.6]
	Pikine	722	15.3	[8.7; 25.5]	465	15.4	[8.7; 25.9]	257	15.1	[8.5; 25.3]
Highest level of education achieved	Never attended school	1,754	37.1	[33.9; 40.5]	1,227	40.7	[37.3; 44.1]	527	30.9	[27.1; 34.9]
	Primary	1,228	26	[24.3; 27.7]	806	26.7	[24.8; 28.8]	422	24.7	[22.5; 27.1]
	Secondary	1,250	26.5	[24.4; 28.6]	767	25.4	[23.3; 27.7]	483	28.3	[25.2; 31.6]
	Technical/vocational education	124	2.6	[2.1; 3.3]	81	2.7	[2.0; 3.7]	43	2.5	[1.8; 3.5]
	University/higher education	367	7.8	[6.8; 8.8]	135	4.5	[3.7; 5.4]	232	13.6	[11.7; 15.7]
General health	Poor	500	10.6	[9.4; 11.9]	342	11.4	[10.0; 12.9]	158	9.3	[7.9; 10.9]
	Acceptable	2,348	49.7	[47.3; 52.2]	1,533	50.9	[48.2; 53.6]	815	47.7	[44.5; 51.1]
	Excellent	1,873	39.7	[37.1; 42.3]	1,139	37.8	[35.0; 40.7]	734	43.0	[39.5; 46.6]
Occupation	Education or training	710	15	[13.7; 16.4]	381	12.6	[11.3; 14.1]	329	19.3	[17.0; 21.8]
	Works in agriculture or fishing	53	1.1	[0.8; 1.6]	12	0.4	[0.2; 0.7]	41	2.4	[1.6; 3.5]
	Works in a sector other than agriculture or fishing	1,686	35.7	[33.0; 38.5]	899	29.8	[27.2; 32.6]	787	46.1	[42.4; 49.9]
	Looking for work	278	5.9	[4.9; 7.1]	178	5.9	[4.8; 7.2]	100	5.9	[4.5; 7.7]

	Engaged in household or family responsibilities	1,082	22.9	[21.6; 24.3]	1,067	35.4	[33.4; 37.5]	15	0.9	[0.5; 1.5]
	Long-term illness or disability	125	2.7	[2.1; 3.3]	75	2.5	[1.9; 3.2]	50	2.9	[2.1; 4.1]
	Retired or in receipt of a pension	247	5.23	[4.6; 5.9]	109	3.6	[3.0; 4.4]	138	8.1	[7.0; 9.3]
	Other	542	11.5	[8.8; 14.8]	295	9.8	[7.1; 13.4]	247	14.5	[11.4; 18.1]
Urban quintile	1	107	2.3	[1.3; 4.0]	64	2.1	[1.2; 3.7]	43	2.5	[1.3; 4.7]
	2	705	14.9	[11.6; 19.0]	415	13.8	[10.5; 17.9]	290	17.0	[13.1; 21.7]
	3	1,953	41.4	[37.5; 45.3]	1,290	42.8	[38.6; 47.0]	663	38.8	[34.9; 42.9]
	4	1,824	38.6	[34.0; 43.4]	1,153	38.2	[33.5; 43.2]	671	39.3	[34.4; 44.4]
	5	134	2.8	[1.8; 4.4]	94	3.1	[2.0; 4.8]	40	2.3	[1.4; 4.0]

Table 18 (appendix) shows that the age of the participants was similar across the study locations, although there were significant regional variations in education, occupation, and wealth. The proportion of participants who had never attended school ranged from 25.9 % in Pikine to 42.8 % in Kaffrine (these proportions were 39.8 % and 35.7 % in Kaolack and Louga, respectively). The proportion of those working in a sector other than agriculture or fishing was lower in Pikine (25.5 %) than in the other study locations (44.5 % in Kaffrine, 33.8 % in Kaolack and 42.4 % in Louga). It should also be noted that the proportion of people looking for work was highest in Pikine (10.9 %) compared to just 3.7 % in Kaffrine (these proportions were 5.2 % and 5.3 % in Kaolack and Louga, respectively). Lastly, the proportion of those engaged in occupations "other" than those listed in the questionnaire was considerably higher in Pikine (20.4 %) than in Kaffrine (0.9 %). These proportions were 12.9 % in Kaolack and 7.9 % in Louga. In terms of relative wealth, 18.3 % of participants were in the poorest quintiles in Kaolack, 32.9 % in Kaffrine, 13.6 % in Louga and just 6.2 % in Pikine.

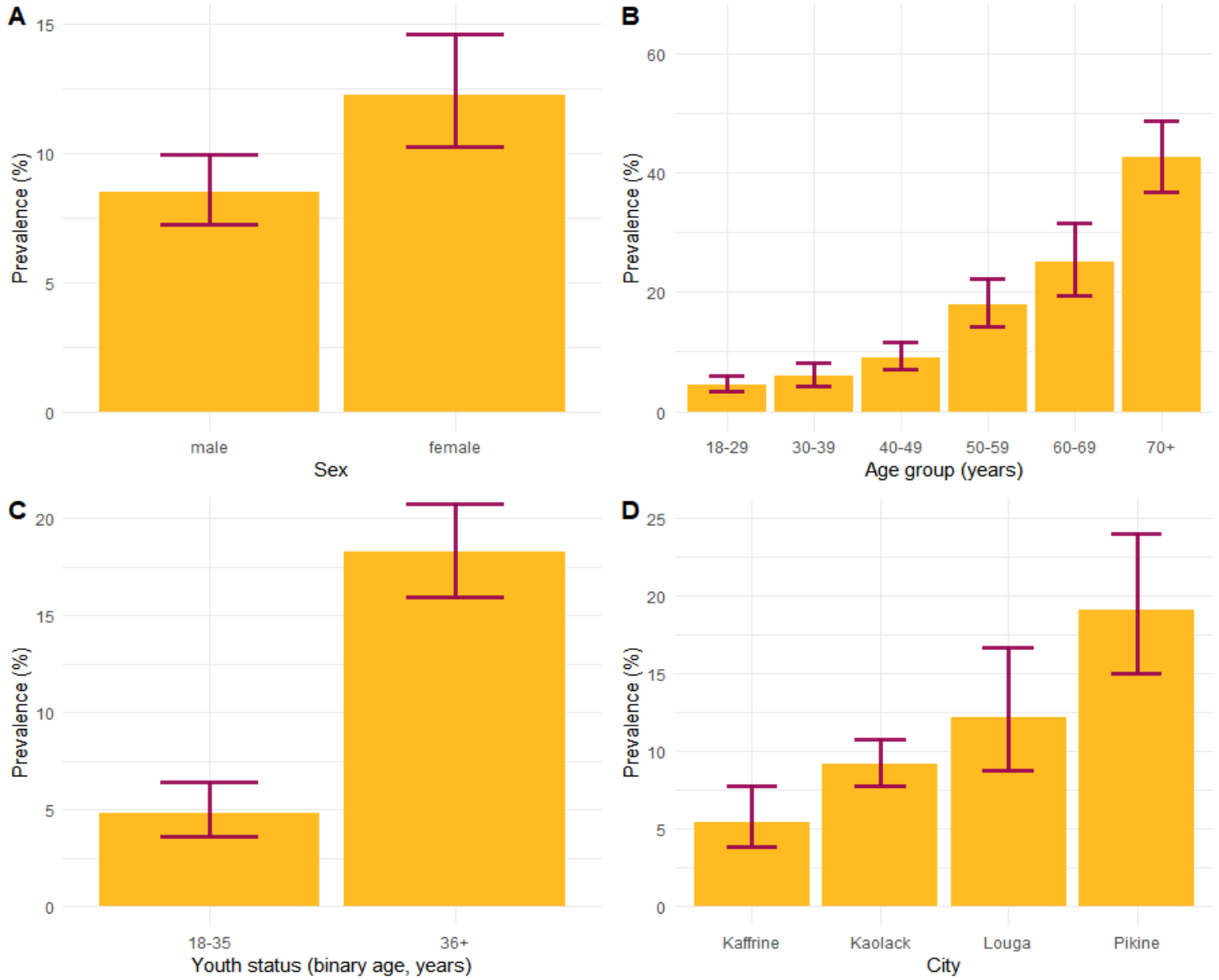
Prevalence of disability

Disability prevalence by sex, age and location

Overall, disability prevalence was 10.9 % (95 % CI = [9.4, 12.6]; N=514). As shown in Figure 4, disability was more prevalent among women (12.2 %) than men (8.5 %) (Figure 4A). Disability prevalence increased with age: it was 4.5 % among participants aged 18 to 29 years, compared with 42.6 % among individuals aged 70 years and older (Figure 4B). As expected, when we examined age in a binary manner by focusing on the subgroup of young adults aged 18 to 35, disability prevalence was much higher among adults aged 36 and older (18.3 %) than young adults (4.8 %) (Figure 4C). There were also significant regional variations: disability prevalence was 5.5 % in Kaffrine, 9.2 % in Kaolack, 12.2 % in Louga and 19.1 % in Pikine (Figure 4D).

Details on the domains of functional difficulty are set out in the appendix (Figure 6).

Figure 4: Prevalence of disability (Washington Group Short Set) by sex (A), age group (B), youth (C) and location (D). Error bars represent 95 % confidence intervals.



Sightsavers

Sociodemographic characteristics by disability

(Table 2) shows the sociodemographic characteristics varied according to disability status. Indeed, people with disabilities tended to be older and have lower levels of education, with 51 % of participants with disabilities having never attended school, compared to 35.4 % of participants without disabilities. A much higher proportion of participants with disabilities reported poor general health (47.5 %, versus 6.1 % among participants without disabilities). In terms of main occupation, the proportion of people with disabilities who were in education or training was lower (4.7 %) than among people without disabilities (16.3 %), while the proportion of people with a long-term illness or disability was higher among participants with disabilities (17.3 %, versus just 0.8 % among participants without disabilities). There was no marked difference between people with and without disabilities in terms of relative wealth.

Table 2: Sociodemographic characteristics – by disability

		People with disabilities			People without disabilities		
Age (years)	Median (IQR)	55	36-68		32	25-46	
		N	**%**	**95% CI**	**N**	**%**	**95% CI**
Highest level completed education	Never attended school	262	51.0	[44.8; 57.1]	1,491	35.4	[32.2; 38.8]
	Primary	143	27.8	[23.5; 32.6]	1,085	25.8	[24.2; 27.5]
	Secondary	72	14.0	[11.1; 17.5]	1,178	28.0	[25.8; 30.3]
	Technical/vocational education	13	2.5	[1.4; 4.6]	111	2.6	[2.1; 3.4]
	University/higher education	24	4.7	[2.8; 7.6]	343	8.2	[7.1; 9.4]
Health status	Poor	244	47.5	[42.3; 52.7]	256	6.1	[5.0; 7.4]
	Fair	221	43.0	[38.0; 48.2]	2,127	50.6	[47.9; 53.2]
	Excellent	49	9.5	[7.1; 12.7]	1,824	43.4	[40.6; 46.2]
Occupation	Education or training	24	4.7	[2.9; 7.5]	686	16.3	[14.9; 17.9]
	Works in agriculture or fishing	5	1.0	[0.4; 2.3]	48	1.1	[0.8; 1.6]
	Works in a sector other than agriculture or fishing	141	27.4	[3.3; 32.0]	1,545	36.7	[33.7; 39.8]
	Looking for work	14	2.7	[1.5; 4.8]	264	6.3	[5.2; 7.6]
	Engaged in household or family responsibilities	96	18.7	[15.0; 23.0]	986	23.4	[22.0; 25.0]
	Long-term illness or disability	89	17.3	[13.6; 21.9]	35	0.8	[0.6; 1.2]
	Retired or in receipt of a pension	74	14.4	[11.4; 18.1]	173	4.1	[3.5; 4.8]
	Other	71	13.8	[10.3; 18.3]	471	11.2	[8.5; 14.6]

Possession of the necessary documents

Most study participants (95.9 %) had a birth certificate (Table 3) or ID card (82.8 %). However, just 66.3 % of participants were registered to vote. Among those who were not registered (N=1,589), the most frequently cited reason was a lack of the necessary documents (35.6 %), followed by some “other” reason (19 %) and a lack of interest (18.3 %). Lastly, 69.4 % of participants had a valid voter registration card.

There was no marked difference between men and women, either in terms of possession of the necessary documents or reasons for not registering to vote.

Table 3: Possession of necessary documents – overall and by sex

		Overall			Women			Men		
		N	%	95%CI	N	%	95%CI	N	%	95%CI
Birth certificate	Yes	4,528	95.9	[95.1; 96.6]	2,873	95.4	[94.4; 96.2]	1,655	97	[95.8; 97.8]
	No	192	4.1	[3.4; 4.9]	140	4.7	[3.8; 5.6]	52	3.1	[2.2; 4.2]
National identity card	Yes	3,906	82.8	[81.3; 84.1]	2,464	81.8	[79.7; 83.7]	1,442	84.5	[82.5; 86.3]
	No	813	17.2	[15.9; 18.7]	548	18.2	[16.3; 20.3]	265	15.5	[13.7; 17.5]
Currently registered to vote	Yes	3,127	66.3	[64.0; 68.6]	1,956	65.0	[62.3; 67.6]	1,171	68.6	[65.7; 71.5]
	No	1,589	33.7	[31.4; 36.0]	1,054	35.0	[32.4; 37.7]	535	31.4	[28.5; 34.3]
Reasons for not registering (N=1,589)	I did not think I was eligible	108	6.8	[4.8; 9.5]	65	6.2	[4.4; 8.6]	43	8	[5.1; 12.4]
	Family and/or community members would not allow it	34	2.1	[1.4; 3.3]	23	2.2	[1.2; 3.8]	11	2.1	[1.1; 3.9]
	Lack of necessary information	150	9.4	[7.4; 12.0]	108	10.3	[7.9; 13.3]	42	7.9	[5.4; 11.3]
	Lack of necessary documents	565	35.6	[30.3; 41.2]	392	37.2	[31.5; 43.3]	173	32.3	[26.2; 39.2]

	The necessary documents are not accessible	131	8.2	[6.5; 10.5]	87	8.3	[6.3; 10.8]	44	8.2	[5.6; 11.9]
	The registration centre is not accessible	9	0.6	[0.3; 1.3]	5	0.5	[0.2; 1.3]	4	0.8	[0.3; 1.9]
	Not interested in politics	290	18.3	[15.0; 22.0]	175	16.6	[13.1; 20.8]	115	21.5	[17.0; 26.8]
	Other	302	19.0	[14.4; 24.7]	199	18.9	[14.2; 24.6]	103	19.3	[14.0; 25.9]
Valid voter registration card	Yes	3,271	69.4	[67.7; 71.0]	2,060	68.4	[66.2; 70.6]	1,211	71.0	[68.7; 73.3]
	No	1,444	30.6	[29.0; 32.3]	950	31.6	[29.4; 33.8]	494	29.0	[26.7; 31.3]

Table 4 shows that the proportion of participants with disabilities who had an ID card (89.0 %) was higher than among participants without disabilities (82.0 %). There were no other marked differences between these two groups. It is important to note that, as mentioned in the "Methodology" section, confounders such as age may play a role here, and readers are encouraged to review the results of the statistical models (in the "Political participation: comparisons between people with and without disabilities" section), which account for these confounders and allow for more accurate conclusions to be drawn.

There were differences between groups in terms of reasons for not registering to vote. Of the participants without disabilities, 37.4 % cited a lack of the necessary documents, compared to just 19.6 % of participants with disabilities. Conversely, 36.3 % of participants with disabilities said that the reason fell under “other”, compared to 17 % of participants without disabilities. Lastly, "family and/or community members would not allow it" was cited more frequently by participants with disabilities (9.5 %, compared with 1.3 % among participants without disabilities).

Table 4: Possession of the necessary documents – by disability

		People with disabilities			People without disabilities		
		N	%	95% CI	N	%	95%CI
Birth certificate	Yes	487	94.9	[92.6; 96.5]	4,041	96.1	[95.2; 96.8]
	No	26	5.1	[3.5; 7.4]	166	3.9	[3.2; 4.8]
National identity card	Yes	455	89	[85.3; 91.9]	3,451	82.0	[80.5; 83.5]

	No	56	11.0	[8.1; 14.7]	757	18	[16.6;19.5]
Currently registered to vote	Yes	343	67.1	[60.6; 73.0]	2,784	66.2	[63.8; 68.5]
	No	168	32.9	[27.0; 39.4]	1,421	33.8	[31.5; 36.2]
Reasons for not registering (N=1,589)	I did not think I was eligible	4	2.4	[0.9; 6.46]	104	7.3	[5.2; 10.3]
	Family and/or community members would not allow it	16	9.5	[5.95;14.89]	18	1.3	[0.8; 2.1]
	Lack of necessary information	9	5.4	[2.7; 10.5]	141	9.9	[7.8; 12.6]
	Lack of necessary documents	33	19.6	[13.2; 28.2]	532	37.4	[31.9; 43.3]
	The necessary documents are not accessible	13	7.7	[4.4; 13.2]	118	8.3	[6.4; 10.7]
	The registration centre is not accessible	1	0.6	[0.1; 4.4]	8	0.6	[0.2; 1.3]
	Not interested in politics	31	18.5	[13.0; 25.5]	259	18.2	[14.9; 22.1]
	Other	61	36.3	[26.9; 46.9]	241	17.0	[12.4; 22.8]
Valid voter registration card	Yes	379	74.3	[69.2; 78.9]	2,892	68.8	[67.1; 70.4]
	No	131	25.7	[21.1; 30.9]	1,313	31.2	[29.6; 32.9]

Table 19 (appendix) shows that the proportion of participants with a birth certificate was slightly lower among young adults (94.3 %) than older adults (97.9 %). However, there were marked differences between the two groups in terms of ID card possession (just 71.8 % of young adults, versus 96.1 % of older adults), voter registration (52.0 % among young adults versus 83.7 % of older adults) and voter registration card possession (53.3 %, versus 88.9 % of older adults). The reasons for not registering to vote differed between the groups: 41.8 % of young adults cited a lack of the necessary documents, compared to 13.3 % of older adults. Conversely, 34.1 % of older adults cited a reason falling under "other", compared to 14.8 % of young adults. Lastly, 29.5 % of older adults cited a lack of interest in politics, compared to 15.1 % of young adults.

Table 20 (appendix) shows regional variations: the proportion of participants with an ID card ranged from 79.9 % in Kaffrine to 86.8 % in Pikine. Those proportions were 81.2 % in Kaolack and 85.3 % in Louga. Additionally, the proportion of participants registered to vote ranged from 62.2 % in Kaolack to 72 % in Kaffrine. That figure was 71.8 % in Louga and 67.6 % in Pikine. There were no other significant differences between locations. The reasons cited for not registering to vote varied by location: most participants in Kaffrine and Louga cited the lack of the necessary documents (68.6 % and 55.4 %, respectively), compared to just 32.5 % in Pikine

and 24.3 % in Kaolack. Conversely, 26.1 % and 20.4 % of participants in Pikine and Kaolack, respectively, indicated a lack of interest, compared to just 12.8 % in Louga and 4.4 % in Kaffrine.

Voter participation

Table 5 shows that 63.6 % of participants had voted at least once, with no difference between men and women. Most (89.4 %) participants who had previously voted (N=2,997) had last voted in the 2019 elections. The type of election in which participants most frequently reported having voted last was the presidential election (92.3 %). Among those who had never voted (N=1,714), the most frequently cited reason was a lack of the necessary documents (30.2 %), followed by being underage (26.0 %), some "other" reason (13.9 %) and a lack of interest in politics (13.7 %).

Table 5: Participation in past elections – overall and by sex

		Overall			Women			Men		
		N	%	95% CI	N	%	95% CI	N	%	95% CI
Has voted	Yes	2,997	63.6	[61.8; 65.4]	1,908	63.5	[61.3; 65.6]	1,089	63.9	[61.4; 66.4]
	No	1,714	36.4	[34.6; 38.3]	1,099	36.6	[34.4; 38.7]	615	36.1	[33.6; 38.6]
Year of last vote (N=2,997)	Does not know/does not remember	105	3.5	[2.7; 4.5]	75	3.9	[3.0; 5.1]	30	2.8	[1.9; 4.1]
	2019	2,680	89.4	[87.8; 90.9]	1,710	89.6	[87.8; 91.2]	970	89.1	[86.8; 91.0]
	2017	72	2.4	[1.4; 4.0]	38	2.0	[1.1; 3.6]	34	3.1	[1.9; 5.1]
	2016	17	0.6	[0.3; 1.0]	11	0.6	[0.3; 1.2]	6	0.6	[0.2; 1.4]
	2014	24	0.8	[0.5; 1.3]	16	0.8	[0.5; 1.5]	8	0.7	[0.4; 1.6]
	Pre-2014	99	3.3	[2.5; 4.3]	58	3.0	[2.2; 4.1]	41	3.8	[2.6; 5.5]
Type of election at which they last voted (N=2,997)	Does not know/does not remember	86	2.9	[2.2; 3.8]	58	3.0	[2.2; 4.2]	28	2.6	[1.7; 3.9]
	Presidential	2,765	92.3	[90.7; 93.6]	1,756	92.0	[90.1; 93.6]	1,009	92.7	[90.8; 94.2]
	Local (municipal, regional or departmental)	32	1.1	[0.7; 1.7]	22	1.2	[0.7; 1.8]	10	0.9	[0.4; 2.0]
	Parliamentary	15	0.5	[0.3; 0.8]	11	0.6	[0.3; 1.0]	4	0.4	[0.1; 1.0]
	Referendum	76	2.5	[1.4; 4.5]	48	2.5	[1.3; 4.8]	28	2.6	[1.4; 4.8]

	Other	23	0.8	[0.5; 1.2]	13	0.7	[0.4; 1.3]	10	0.9	[0.5; 1.6]
Reasons for never having voted (N=1,714)	I did not think I was eligible	76	4.4	[2.8; 6.9]	45	4.1	[2.6; 6.5]	31	5.0	[3.0; 8.4]
	Family and/or community members would not allow it	21	1.2	[0.7; 2.3]	13	1.2	[0.6; 2.4]	8	1.3	[0.6; 3.0]
	Lack of necessary information	50	2.9	[2.1; 4.0]	30	2.7	[1.7; 4.3]	20	3.3	[2.1; 5.0]
	Lack of necessary documents	518	30.2	[26.2; 34.6]	361	32.9	[28.4; 37.7]	157	25.5	[21.0; 30.6]
	The necessary documents are not accessible	119	6.9	[5.6; 8.7]	80	7.3	[5.5; 9.6]	39	6.3	[4.4; 9.0]
	The registration centre is not accessible	10	0.6	[0.3; 1.4]	6	0.6	[0.1; 2.1]	4	0.7	[0.3; 1.7]
	Not interested in politics	235	13.7	[11.0; 17.0]	137	12.5	[9.5; 16.2]	98	15.9	[12.8; 19.7]
	Was underage	446	26.0	[22.9; 29.4]	267	24.3	[21.2; 27.7]	179	29.1	[24.4; 34.3]
	Other	239	13.9	[10.7; 18.0]	160	14.6	[11.0; 19.1]	79	12.9	[9.7; 16.9]

Table 6 shows that the proportion of people with disabilities who had ever voted was higher (75.1 %) than among people without disabilities (62.2 %). There was no significant difference between the two groups in terms of the type or year of their most recent vote. In terms of the reasons for not voting, a higher proportion of people with disabilities cited the fact that their family or community would not allow it (7.1 %) than people without disabilities (0.8 %). Similarly, the proportion of "other" responses was higher among people with disabilities (26.0 %) than among people without disabilities (13.0 %).

Table 6: Participation in past elections – by disability

		People with disabilities			People without disabilities		
		N	%	95% CI	N	%	95%CI
Has voted	Yes	383	75.1	[69.9; 79.7]	2,614	62.2	[60.3; 64.1]
	No	127	24.9	[20.4; 30.1]	1,587	37.8	[35.9; 39.7]
Year of last vote (N=2,997)	Does not know/does not remember	36	9.4	[6.3; 13.8]	69	2.6	[2.0; 3.5]
	2019	309	80.7	[75.1; 85.3]	2,371	90.7	[89.2; 92.0]
	2017	4	1.0	[0.4; 2.8]	68	2.6	[1.6; 4.3]
	2016	2	0.5	[0.1; 2.1]	15	0.6	[0.3; 1.0]
	2014	4	1.0	[0.4; 2.8]	20	0.8	[0.5; 1.3]

	Pre-2014	28	7.3	[4.4; 12]	71	2.7	[2.1; 3.6]
Type of election at which they last voted (N=2,997)	Does not know/does not remember	30	7.8	[4.7; 12.7]	56	2.1	[1.6; 2.9]
	Presidential	334	87.2	[81.9; 91.1]	2,431	93.0	[91.3; 94.4]
	Local (municipal, regional or departmental)	7	1.8	[0.9; 3.7]	25	1.0	[0.6; 1.6]
	Parliamentary	2	0.5	[0.1; 2.1]	13	0.5	[0.3; 0.9]
	Referendum	4	1.0	[0.4; 2.8]	72	2.8	[1.5; 5.1]
	Other	6	1.6	[0.6; 4.2]	17	0.7	[0.4; 1.0]
Reasons for never having voted (N=1,714)	I did not think I was eligible	1	0.8	[0.1; 5.6]	75	4.7	[3.0; 7.4]
	Family and/or community members would not allow it	9	7.1	[3.9; 12.5]	12	0.8	[0.3; 1.9]
	Lack of necessary information	1	0.8	[0.1; 5.8]	49	3.1	[2.3; 4.2]
	Lack of necessary documents	33	26.0	[18.8; 34.8]	485	30.6	[26.4; 35.1]
	The necessary documents are not accessible	6	4.7	[2.3; 9.6]	113	7.1	[5.6; 9.0]
	The registration centre is not accessible	0	0	[0.0; 0.0]	10	0.6	[0.3; 1.4]
	Not interested in politics	15	11.8	[6.9; 19.6]	220	13.9	[11.0; 17.3]
	Was underage	29	22.8	[16.3; 31.1]	417	26.3	[22.9; 30.0]
	Other	33	26.0	[18.4; 35.4]	206	13.0	[9.8; 17.0]

Table 21 (appendix) shows that the proportion of young adults who had ever voted (41.5 %) was lower than among older adults (90.6 %). There were no significant differences between the groups with regard to the type or year of their most recent vote. The reasons for not voting were, however, different for these two groups: a lack of the necessary documents and being underage were the reasons most commonly cited by young adults (31.4 % and 29 %, respectively), while a lack of interest (32.5%) and a reason falling under “other” (32.5 %) were the most common reasons among older adults.

Table 22 shows that the proportion of participants who had ever voted was highest in Louga (68.1 %). This proportion was 67.3 % in Pikine, 62 % in Kaffrine and 61 % in Kaolack. There was no significant difference in terms of the year or type of their most recent vote. There were regional differences in the reasons for not voting. A lack of the necessary documents was the most frequently cited reason in Louga (47.1 %), Kaffrine (46.1 %) and Pikine (31.8 %), while it was cited by just 21.0 % of participants in Kaolack. Other frequently cited reasons included being underage, with proportions ranging from 21.7 % in Louga to 32.9 % in Kaffrine. Lastly, a higher proportion of participants in Kaolack (20.8 %) cited a reason falling under "other" compared to the other locations (4.2 % in Kaffrine, 7.0 % in Louga and 5.5 % in Pikine).

Participation in political debate

Table 7 shows that, overall, 41.4 % of the sample had watched, listened to and/or read political content and/or discussed politics (46.5 % of men and 38.5 % of women). Among those who had participated in political debate (N=1,948), the main source of information was television (33.7 %) followed by friends and family (19.6 %), radio (15.3 %) and the internet (12.8 %). The primary source of information differed between men and women: 38.3 % of women cited television, versus 27.0 % of men. Conversely, 17.7 % of men cited the internet, compared to just 9.5 % of women.

Table 7: Participation in political debate – overall and by sex

		Overall			Women			Men		
		N	%	95% CI	N	%	95% CI	N	%	95% CI
Participation in political debate	Yes	1,948	41.4	[36.8; 46.1]	1,158	38.5	[34.1; 43.2]	790	46.5	[40.6; 52.4]
	No	2,758	58.6	[53.9; 63.2]	1,848	61.5	[56.8; 65.9]	910	53.5	[47.6; 59.4]
Main source of information (N=1,948)	Radio	298	15.3	[13.2; 17.7]	165	14.3	[11.8; 17.1]	133	16.8	[13.8; 20.4]
	Television	657	33.7	[29.8; 37.9]	444	38.3	[33.9; 43.0]	213	27.0	[22.5; 31.9]
	Newspapers	24	1.2	[0.8; 2.0]	7	0.6	[0.3; 1.3]	17	2.2	[1.3; 3.6]
	Friends and family	382	19.6	[16.6; 23.1]	199	17.2	[14.3; 20.5]	183	23.2	[19.1; 27.9]
	Internet	250	12.8	[10.2; 16.1]	110	9.5	[7.1; 12.6]	140	17.7	[13.9; 22.3]
	Local council offices	172	8.8	[7.0; 11.2]	117	10.1	[7.7; 13.2]	55	7.0	[5.1; 9.4]
	Community and religious leaders	128	6.6	[4.6; 9.4]	94	8.2	[5.7; 11.4]	34	4.3	[2.4; 7.5]
	Organisations of people with disabilities	9	0.5	[0.2; 1.0]	6	0.5	[0.2; 1.3]	3	0.4	[0.1; 1.2]
	NGO	12	0.6	[0.3; 1.1]	8	0.7	[0.4; 1.4]	4	0.5	[0.2; 1.4]
	Other	16	0.8	[0.5; 1.4]	8	0.7	[0.3; 1.5]	8	1.0	[0.5; 2.2]

Table 8 shows that the proportion of participants engaged in political debate was higher among people with disabilities (47.0 %) than among people without disabilities (40.7 %). The main sources of information differed between the groups: a higher proportion of people with disabilities used the radio (26.9 %, compared with 13.7 % of people without disabilities). Conversely, a higher proportion of people without disabilities used friends and family (21.0 %, versus 9.7 % of people with disabilities).

Table 8: Participation in political debate – by disability

		People with disabilities			People without disabilities		
		N	%	95% CI	N	%	95%CI
Participation in political debate	Yes	238	47.0	[39.8; 54.4]	1,710	40.7	[36.2; 45.4]
	No	268	53.0	[45.6; 60.2]	2,490	59.3	[54.6; 63.8]
Main source of information (N=1,948)	Radio	64	26.9	[21.5; 33.1]	234	13.7	[11.6; 16.1]
	Television	80	33.6	[27.5; 40.3]	577	33.7	[29.7; 38.1]
	Newspapers	3	1.3	[0.4; 3.9]	21	1.2	[0.7; 2.0]
	Friends and family	23	9.7	[6.2; 14.8]	359	21.0	[17.9; 24.5]

	Internet	22	9.2	[5.9; 14.3]	228	13.3	[10.5; 16.8]
	Local council offices	28	11.8	[7.5; 17.9]	144	8.4	[6.7; 10.5]
	Community and religious leaders	13	5.5	[3.3; 9.0]	115	6.7	[4.5; 10.0]
	Organisations of people with disabilities	2	0.8	[0.2; 3.5]	7	0.4	[0.2; 1.0]
	NGO	1	0.4	[0.1; 2.7]	11	0.6	[0.3; 1.2]
	Other	2	0.8	[0.2; 3.5]	14	0.8	[0.5; 1.5]

Table 23 (appendix) shows that the proportion of adults aged 36 and over who participated in political debate is higher (47.3 %) than among young adults (36.6 %). There were also differences in terms of the primary source of information: 20.9 % of older adults used the radio, compared to just 9.4 % of young adults. Conversely, 20.0 % of young adults used the internet, compared to 6.0 % of older adults.

The proportion of respondents who participated in political debate was highest in Pikine (56.2 %) and lowest in Kaolack (33.4 %), with proportions of 42.8 % in Kaffrine and 49.1 % in Louga (appendix Table 24). There were also regional differences in terms of the primary source of information: 42.3 % of participants in Kaolack and 41.1 % in Pikine used television, compared to just 11.9 % in Kaffrine and 24 % in Louga. More participants in Kaolack and Kaffrine used friends and family (25.1 % and 29.2 %, respectively) compared to 15.2 % in Louga and 8.4 % in Pikine. Lastly, 20.5 % of participants in Pikine used the internet, compared to 6.9 % in Kaolack (this figure was 11.5 % in Kaffrine and 16.8 % in Louga).

Political party membership

Overall, 11.2 % of participants were registered members of a political party. There was no significant difference between men and women (Table 9). Of those who were not registered with a political party, just 5.0 % had attempted to do so. The most frequently cited reasons for not joining a political party were a lack of interest in politics (52.5 %) and reasons falling under "other" (23.0 %).

Table 9: Political party membership – overall and by sex

		Overall			Women			Men		
		N	%	[95% CI]	N	%	[95% CI]	N	%	[95% CI]
Registered member of a political party	Yes	525	11.2	[9.0; 13.7]	365	12.2	[9.8; 15.0]	160	9.4	[7.0; 12.5]
	No	4,181	88.8	[86.3; 91.0]	2,639	87.9	[85.0; 90.3]	1,542	90.6	[87.5; 93.0]
Has attempted to join a political party (N=4,181)	Yes	209	5.0	[3.8; 6.5]	113	4.3	[3.1; 5.9]	96	6.2	[4.7; 8.2]
	No	3,967	95.0	[93.5; 96.2]	2,523	95.7	[94.1; 96.9]	1,444	93.8	[91.8; 95.3]
Reasons for not joining (N=4,181)	I did not think I was eligible	111	2.7	[1.9; 3.8]	67	2.5	[1.8; 3.6]	44	2.9	[1.8; 4.4]
	Family and/or community members would not allow it	141	3.4	[2.5; 4.5]	99	3.8	[2.7; 5.1]	42	2.7	[1.9; 3.9]
	Lack of necessary information	427	10.2	[7.6; 13.6]	290	11.0	[8.1; 14.8]	137	8.9	[6.6; 11.9]
	Lack of necessary documents	283	6.8	[5.3; 8.6]	192	7.3	[5.6; 9.4]	91	5.9	[4.3; 8.1]
	The necessary documents are not accessible	59	1.4	[1.0; 2.0]	32	1.2	[0.8; 1.8]	27	1.8	[1.1; 2.8]
	The registration centre is not accessible	4	0.1	[0.0; 0.3]	3	0.1	[0.0; 0.4]	1	0.1	[0.0; 0.5]
	Not interested in politics	2,193	52.5	[49.8; 55.1]	1,345	51.0	[48.5; 53.4]	848	55.0	[50.9; 59.0]
	Other	963	23.0	[18.8; 28.0]	611	23.2	[18.8; 28.2]	352	22.8	[18.2; 28.3]

Among people with disabilities, 13.6 % were registered members of a political party, compared to 10.9 % of people without disabilities, although this difference was not statistically significant (Table 10). There were some differences with regard to the reasons for not joining: 53.5 % of people without disabilities cited a lack of interest in politics, compared to just 43.8 % of people with disabilities. Conversely, 35.8 % of people with disabilities indicated a reason falling under "other", compared to 21.5 % of people without disabilities.

Table 10: Political party membership – by disability

		People with disabilities			People without disabilities		
		N	%	[95% CI]	N	%	[95% CI]
Registered member of a political party	Yes	69	13.6	[10.0; 18.2]	456	10.9	[8.8; 13.4]
	No	438	86.4	[81.8; 90.0]	3,743	89.1	[86.6; 91.3]
Has attempted to join a political party (N=4,181)	Yes	33	7.5	[4.9; 11.3]	176	4.7	[3.6; 6.1]
	No	405	92.5	[88.7; 95.1]	3,562	95.3	[93.9; 96.4]
Reasons for not joining (N=4,181)	I did not think I was eligible	8	1.8	[0.8; 3.9]	103	2.8	[1.9; 4.0]
	Family and/or community members would not allow it	28	6.4	[4.2; 9.6]	113	3.0	[2.2; 4.1]
	Lack of necessary information	21	4.8	[3.0; 7.7]	406	10.9	[8.1; 14.4]
	Lack of necessary documents	26	5.9	[3.7; 9.5]	257	6.9	[5.4; 8.8]
	The necessary documents are not accessible	6	1.4	[0.6; 3.0]	53	1.4	[0.9; 2.1]
	The registration centre is not accessible	0	0	[0.0; 0.0]	4	0.1	[0.0; 0.3]
	Not interested in politics	192	43.8	[38.7; 49.1]	2,001	53.5	[50.7; 56.2]
	Other	157	35.8	[29.4; 42.9]	806	21.5	[17.3; 26.4]

Table 25 (appendix) shows that the proportion of participants who were registered members of a political party was lower among young adults (8.4 %) than among older adults (14.5 %). In both groups, the most frequently cited reason for not joining was a lack of interest in politics.

There were significant regional variations in political party registration (appendix Table 26): 29.2 % of participants in Kaffrine were registered members, 14.1 % in Louga, 11.9 % in Pikine and just 5.4 % in Kaolack. The proportion of people who had attempted to join a political party was 11.3 % in Pikine, 8.8 % in Louga, 3.7 % in Kaffrine and 2 % in Kaolack. There were also regional variations in terms of the reasons for not joining. In all study locations, the most frequently cited reason was a lack of interest in politics: 54.6 % in Kaolack, 41.0 % in Kaffrine, 50.0 % in Louga and 55.4 % in Pikine. Furthermore, 24.6 % of participants in Kaffrine, 13.1 % in Louga, 8.4 % in Kaolack and 3.6 % in Pikine cited a lack of necessary information. Similarly, 19.4 % of participants in Kaffrine, 8.5 % in Louga, 4.9 % in Pikine and 4.4 % in Kaolack cited a lack of the necessary documents. Lastly, 28.5 % of participants in Pikine, 25.4 % in Kaolack and 20.2 % in Louga cited a reason falling under "other", compared to just 7.0 % in Kaffrine.

Local political participation and representation

Just 3.9 % of the participants in the sample were local representatives or candidates of a political party, while 3.0 % stated that they wanted to become one. There was no significant difference between men and women (Table 11). Of the participants who wanted to become a local candidate or representative (N=136), 26.5 % (N=36) were registered to become a local representative or candidate of a political party. Among the remaining participants (N=100) who wanted to become a candidate or representative but were not registered, the most frequently cited reasons for not registering fell under "other" (44.0 %), followed by "cannot meet requirements" (34.0 %) and behavioural barriers (15.0 %).

With regard to local participation, 11.2 % of participants had participated in or observed a local council session. There was no significant difference between men and women. Among those who had never participated in or observed a session (N=4,165), the most frequently cited reasons for not participating were a lack of interest in politics (48.6 %), a reason falling under "other" (19.8 %) and a lack of the necessary information (16.7 %).

Lastly, 18.1 % had participated in or observed a local or religious committee. There was no significant difference between men and women.

Table 11: Local political representation – overall and by sex

		Overall			Women			Men		
		N	%	[95% CI]	N	%	[95% CI]	N	%	[95% CI]
Local representative or candidate of a political party	Yes	184	3.9	[3.2; 4.8]	124	4.1	[3.4; 5.0]	60	3.5	[2.5; 5.0]
	No	4,520	96.1	[95.2; 96.8]	2,877	95.9	[95.0; 96.6]	1,643	96.5	[95.0; 97.5]
Wished to become a local representative or candidate of a political party **(N=4,520)**	Yes	136	3.0	[2.3; 4.0]	81	2.8	[2.0; 4.0]	55	3.4	[2.5; 4.6]
	No	4,376	97	[96.0; 97.7]	2,792	97.2	[96.1; 98.0]	1,584	96.6	[95.4; 97.6]
Registered to become a local representative or candidate of a political party (N=136)	Yes	36	26.5	[19.6; 34.7]	25	30.9	[22.3; 41.0]	11	20.0	[10.8; 64.0]
	No	100	73.5	[65.3; 80.4]	56	69.1	[59.0; 77.7]	44	80.0	[66.1; 89.2]
Reasons for not registering (N=100)	Does not meet the requirements	34	34.0	[25.5; 43.7]	21	37.5	[24.8; 52.3]	13	29.6	[19.4; 42.3]

	Cannot meet voters' needs	4	4.0	[1.4; 11.0]	4	7.1	[2.4; 19.4]	0	0	-
	Behavioural barriers	15	15	[9.4; 23.0]	7	12.5	[6.2; 23.8]	8	18.2	[9.2; 32.8]
	Physical barriers	3	3.0	[1.0; 8.6]	1	1.8	[0.2; 12.7]	2	4.6	[1.1; 16.6]
	Other	44	44.0	[33.6; 55.0]	23	41.1	[25.8; 58.3]	21	47.7	[33.9; 61.9]
Has attended or observed a local council session	Yes	525	11.2	[9.3; 13.4]	347	11.6	[9.4; 14.3]	178	10.5	[8.6; 12.7]
	No	4,165	88.8	[86.6; 90.7]	2,642	88.4	[85.7; 90.6]	1,523	89.5	[87.3; 91.4]
Reasons for not participating (N=4,165)	I did not think I was eligible	117	2.8	[2.0; 4.0]	76	2.9	[2.0; 4.2]	41	2.7	[1.7; 4.2]
	Family and/or community members would not allow it	135	3.2	[2.4; 4.3]	94	3.6	[2.6; 4.9]	41	2.7	[1.8; 3.9]
	Lack of necessary information	696	16.7	[12.6; 21.8]	482	18.2	[13.6; 24.1]	214	14.1	[10.6; 18.4]
	Lack of necessary documents	297	7.1	[5.7; 8.9]	195	7.4	[5.8; 9.3]	102	6.7	[5.1; 8.8]
	The necessary documents are not accessible	72	1.7	[1.1; 2.7]	47	1.8	[1.1; 2.8]	25	1.6	[0.9; 3.0]
	The town hall building is not accessible	1	0	[0.0; 0.2]	1	0	[0.0; 0.3]	0	0	-
	Not interested in politics	2,023	48.6	[44.9; 52.3]	1,223	46.3	[42.4; 50.3]	800	52.5	[47.9; 57.1]
	Other	824	19.8	[15.5; 24.9]	524	19.8	[15.4; 25.2]	300	19.7	[15.2; 25.2]
Participated in or observed a local or religious committee	Yes	851	18.1	[15.5; 21.1]	521	17.4	[14.6; 20.7]	330	19.4	[16.5; 22.6]
	No	3,844	81.9	[79.0; 84.5]	2,469	82.6	[79.3; 85.4]	1,375	80.7	[77.4; 83.5]

Table 12 shows that 5.1 % of people with disabilities were local representatives or candidates of a political party (compared to 3.8 % of people without disabilities). Of those people who were not representatives or candidates, 5.6 % (N=27) wanted to become one

(compared to 2.7 % of people without disabilities). Owing to the small number of participants, the data relating to the responses to the questions on registering to become a candidate and the reasons for not registering are not disaggregated here.

Furthermore, 18.9 % of people with disabilities had participated in a local council session, compared with 10.3 % of people without disabilities. The reasons for not participating varied by group: although the most frequently cited reason in both groups was a lack of interest in politics (41.2 % among people with disabilities and 49.4 % among people without disabilities), 33.3 % of people with disabilities cited a reason falling under "other", versus 18.3 % of people without disabilities. Conversely, 17.6 % of people without disabilities cited a lack of necessary information, compared to 8.3 % of people with disabilities.

Lastly, 26.2 % of people with disabilities had participated in or observed a religious or local committee, compared to 17.2 % of people without disabilities.

Table 12: Local political representation – by disability

		People with disabilities			People without disabilities		
		N	%	[95% CI]	N	%	[95% CI]
Local representative or candidate of a political party	Yes	26	5.1	[3.5; 7.4]	158	3.8	[3.0; 4.7]
	No	482	94.9	[92.6; 96.5]	4,038	96.2	[95.4; 97.0]
Wished to become a local representative or candidate of a political party (N=4,520)	Yes	27	5.6	[3.4; 9.2]	109	2.7	[2.1; 3.6]
	No	455	94.4	[90.8; 96.6]	3,921	97.3	[96.4; 98.0]
Has attended or observed a local council session	Yes	95	18.9	[13.0; 26.7]	430	10.3	[8.6; 12.2]
	No	408	81.1	[73.4; 87.0]	3,757	89.7	[87.8; 91.4]
Reasons for not participating (N=4,165)	I did not think I was eligible	5	1.2	[0.5; 3.0]	112	3.0	[2.1; 4.2]
	Family and/or community members would not allow it	25	6.1	[3.9; 9.3]	110	2.9	[2.1; 4.0]
	Lack of necessary information	34	8.3	[5.1; 13.4]	662	17.6	[13.3; 22.9]
	Lack of necessary documents	30	7.4	[4.6; 11.5]	267	7.1	[5.6; 9.0]
	The necessary documents are not accessible	10	2.5	[1.2; 5.0]	62	1.7	[1.0; 2.7]
	The town hall building is not accessible	0	0	[0.0; 0.0]	1	0	[0.0; 0.2]
	Not interested in politics	168	41.2	[35.6; 47.0]	1,855	49.4	[45.4; 53.3]

	Other	136	33.3	[26.1; 41.4]	688	18.3	[14.2; 23.3]
Participated in or observed a local or religious committee	Yes	133	26.2	[19.2; 34.6]	718	17.2	[14.8; 19.8]
	No	375	73.8	[65.4; 80.8]	3,469	82.9	[80.2; 85.2]

Just 2.5 % of young adults were local representatives or candidates of a political party, compared to 5.7 % of older adults (appendix Table 27). Of the young adults who wished to become a local candidate or representative (N=64), 18.8 % were registered to become one, compared to 33.3 % of older adults who had the same desire (N=72). Lastly, 9.5 % of young adults had participated in or observed a local council session, compared to 13.3 % of older adults, and 15.4 % had participated in a local or religious committee, compared to 21.4 % of older adults.

There were regional variations in local political participation (appendix Table 28). Indeed, 8.6 % of participants in Kaffrine were local representatives or candidates of a political party, compared to 4.3 % in Louga, 3.0 % in Kaolack and 2.6 % in Pikine. However, 8.1 % wished to become one in Pikine, compared to 3.6 % in Louga, 2.5 % in Kaffrine and 1.3 % in Kaolack. Owing to the small number of individuals per location who wished to become candidates, we do not have responses to the questions on registration and the reasons for not registering.

In terms of local engagement, there were also geographic differences: 21.1 % of participants in Pikine, and 17.1 % in Louga, had participated in or observed a local council session, compared to 8.3 % in Kaffrine and 6.3 % in Kaolack. The reasons for not participating varied by location: 58.9 % of participants in Pikine, 54.4 % in Kaolack and 40.4 % in Louga cited a lack of interest, compared to just 25.4 % in Kaffrine. Similarly, just 4.8 % of participants in Kaffrine cited a reason falling under "other", compared to 24 % in Pikine, 23.7 % in Kaolack and 15.8 % in Louga. Conversely, 42.7 % of participants in Kaffrine cited a lack of necessary information, compared to 25.1 % in Louga, 10.6 % in Kaolack and 4.6 % in Pikine.

Lastly, 27.5 % of participants in Pikine and 27.2 % in Louga had participated in or observed a local or religious committee, compared to 17.4 % in Kaffrine and 11.6 % in Kaolack.

Participation in citizen movements and economic associations

Overall, 25.3 % of participants were members of a citizen movement (Table 13). Additionally, 27.4 % of participants were members of an economic association. This proportion was higher among women (34.5 %) than men (14.9 %).

Table 13: Membership of citizen movements and economic associations – overall and by sex

		Overall			Women			Men		
		N	%	95% CI	N	%	95% CI	N	%	95% CI
Member of a citizen movement	Yes	1,194	25.3	[21.9; 29.1]	797	26.5	[22.8; 30.5]	397	23.3	[19.6; 27.4]
	No	3,520	74.7	[70.9; 78.1]	2,211	73.5	[69.5; 77.2]	1,309	76.7	[72.6; 80.4]
Member of an economic association	Yes	1,292	27.4	[24.0; 31.1]	1,038	34.5	[30.6; 38.8]	254	14.9	[12.3; 17.9]
	No	3,417	72.6	[68.9; 76.0]	1,967	65.5	[61.2; 69.4]	1,450	85.1	[82.1; 87.7]

The proportion of participants who were members of an economic association or citizen movement was similar among people with and without disabilities (Table 14).

Table 14: Membership of citizen movements and economic associations – by disability

		People with disabilities			People without disabilities		
		N	%	95% CI	N	%	95% CI
Member of a citizen movement	Yes	128	25.1	[20.3; 30.5]	1,066	25.4	[21.7; 29.5]
	No	383	75.0	[69.5; 79.7]	3,137	74.6	[70.6; 78.3]
Member of an economic association	Yes	137	26.9	[22.5; 31.9]	1,155	27.5	[23.9; 31.4]
	No	372	73.1	[68.1; 77.5]	3,045	72.5	[68.6; 76.1]

The proportion of young adults who were members of a citizen movement stood at 21.3 %, compared to 30.2 % among older adults (appendix Table 29). Similarly, the proportion of young adults who were members of economic associations was 24.0 %, compared to 31.6 % among older adults.

There were regional variations in terms of membership of a citizen movement or economic association (appendix Table 30). Indeed, 39.0 % of participants were members of a citizen movement in Kaffrine, 35.6 % in Louga, 25.6 % in Pikine and just 17.6 % in Kaolack. Similarly, the proportion of participants who were members of an economic association was 40.9 % in Louga, 31.2 % in Kaffrine, 24.1 % in Pikine and 21.8 % in Kaolack.

Political participation: comparisons between people with and without disabilities

Here we set out the results of the multivariate logistic regression models conducted in relation to key political participation variables. These models allow us to adjust for the following confounders: age, sex, location, and education. The results are presented in terms of odds ratio and a 95 % confidence interval.

Table 15 shows that people with disabilities were less likely than people without disabilities to have the necessary documents to vote. Indeed, they were less likely to have a birth certificate (OR=0.45 [0.30; 0.69]), an identity card (0.50 [0.32; 0.77]), to be registered to vote (0.36 [0.25; 0.52]) or to have a valid voter registration card (0.38 [0.27; 0.52]).

People with disabilities were therefore around 2.2 times more likely not to have a birth certificate, 2 times more likely not to have an ID card, 2.8 times more likely not to be registered to vote and 2.6 times more likely not to have a voter registration card.

Furthermore, the multivariate models also show that older participants were more likely to have these documents. The differences between men and women were not statistically significant. There

was, however, variation between study sites. For example, participants in Kaolack and Pikine were less likely to be registered to vote than those in Kaffrine. However, participants in Pikine were more likely to have an ID card than those in Kaffrine. Lastly, participants who had completed at least some primary education were more likely to have the necessary documents than those who had never attended school. The data consist of odds ratios and 95 % confidence intervals obtained from the multivariate logistic regressions.

Table 15: Comparison of people with and without disabilities – possession of necessary documents

	Birth certificate	ID card	Registered to vote	Valid voter registration card
Disability (Ref=no disability)	0.45 [0.30; 0.69]	0.5 [0.32; 0.77]	0.36 [0.25; 0.52]	0.38 [0.27; 0.52]
Age (years)	1.06 [1.04; 1.07]	1.13 [1.11; 1.15]	1.07 [1.06; 1.08]	1.09 [1.08; 1.10]
Sex: female (Ref: male)	0.77 [0.55; 1.07]	0.86 [0.71; 1.05]	0.96 [0.81; 1.13]	0.98 [0.83; 1.16]
Location (Ref: Kaffrine)				
Kaolack	1.60 [1.04; 2.44]	0.94 [0.74; 1.19]	0.54 [0.42; 0.69]	0.83 [0.65; 1.06]
Louga	1.64 [1.02; 2.66]	1.27 [0.93; 1.75]	0.87 [0.65; 1.17]	0.99 [0.77; 1.28]
Pikine	1.48 [0.74; 2.94]	1.35 [1.00; 1.81]	0.68 [0.48; 0.96]	0.97 [0.71; 1.33]
Education (Ref: never attended school)				
Primary	1.87 [1.32; 2.64]	1.43 [1.10; 1.85]	1.83 [1.52; 2.21]	1.72 [1.43; 2.06]
Secondary	6.25 [3.80; 10.27]	1.49 [1.19; 1.86]	1.35 [1.09; 1.67]	1.28 [1.06; 1.55]
University/technical education	10.17 [3.47; 29.79]	8.50 [5.22; 13.84]	4.16 [3.27; 5.28]	3.43 [2.67; 4.42]

Table 16 shows that, compared to people without disabilities, people with disabilities were less likely to have ever voted (0.35 [0.24; 0.51]) or to be a member of an economic association (0.73 [0.56; 0.94]). They were therefore around 2.9 times more likely to have never voted and 1.4 times more likely not to be a member of an economic association compared to people without disabilities. However, they were more likely to have attended or observed a local council session (1.58 [1.03; 2.42]).

We found no statistically significant differences between people with and without disabilities in terms of participation in political debate, political party registration, membership of citizen movements or participation in local or religious committees.

With respect to the other characteristics, older participants were generally more likely to be politically engaged. Women were less likely than men to participate in political debate but were more likely to be registered with a political party and to be a member of an economic association or

citizen movement. There were also geographic differences. For example, participants in Kaolack were less likely than those in Kaffrine to be members of a political party, citizen movement or economic association. They were also less likely to have participated in or observed a local or religious committee than those in Kaffrine. Participants in Louga were more likely than those in Kaffrine to have participated in local sessions or committees and to be members of an economic association but were less likely to be registered members of a political party. Participants in Pikine were less likely to be registered with a political party or to be a member of an economic association or citizen movement but were more likely to have participated in or observed a local or religious committee compared to those in Kaffrine. Lastly, participants who had completed at least primary education were generally more likely to be politically engaged than those who had never attended school.

Table 16: Comparison of people with and without disabilities – political engagement. Data consist of odds ratios and 95 % confidence intervals obtained from multivariate logistic regressions.

	Discusses politics	Has voted	Registered member of a political party	Has participated in/observed a local council session	Has participated in/observed a local or religious committee	Member of an economic association	Member of a citizen movement
Disability (Ref = no disability)	1.04 [0.82; 1.32]	0.35 [0.24; 0.51]	1.06 [0.75; 1.49]	1.58 [1.03; 2.42]	1.38 [0.96; 1.98]	0.73 [0.56; 0.94]	0.77 [0.55; 1.09]
Age (years)	1.01 [1.01; 1.02]	1.13 [1.11; 1.16]	1.02 [1.01; 1.02]	1.00 [1.00; 1.01]	1.01 [1.00; 1.01]	1.01 [1.01; 1.01]	1.01 [1.01; 1.02]
Sex: female (Ref: male)	0.78 [0.67; 0.9]	1.11 [0.95; 1.29]	1.44 [1.09; 1.89]	1.14 [0.94; 1.39]	0.89 [0.76; 1.04]	3.09 [2.59; 3.68]	1.26 [1.07; 1.49]
Location (Ref = Kaffrine)							
Kaolack	0.64 [0.43; 0.93]	0.76 [0.57; 1.01]	0.13 [0.09; 0.17]	0.76 [0.48; 1.18]	0.60 [0.38; 0.95]	0.60 [0.43; 0.83]	0.33 [0.25; 0.44]
Louga	1.22 [0.83; 1.79]	1.14 [0.85; 1.52]	0.35 [0.28; 0.44]	2.21 [1.52; 3.22]	1.70 [1.20; 2.42]	1.51 [1.24; 1.84]	0.85 [0.60; 1.20]
Pikine	1.52 [1.18; 1.95]	1.08 [0.77; 1.50]	0.27 [0.20; 0.38]	2.70 [1.92; 3.79]	1.63 [1.15; 2.31]	0.69 [0.53; 0.89]	0.52 [0.42; 0.66]
Education (Ref = never attended school)							
Primary	1.66 [1.36; 2.02]	1.69 [1.41; 2.03]	1.75 [1.40; 2.19]	1.41 [1.01; 1.98]	1.26 [0.96; 1.65]	1.36 [1.16; 1.60]	1.27 [1.02; 1.58]
Secondary	1.61 [1.26; 2.05]	1.14 [0.94; 1.37]	1.43 [1.08; 1.89]	0.79 [0.52; 1.18]	1.03 [0.78; 1.36]	0.90 [0.75; 1.10]	0.84 [0.65; 1.09]
Technical education/university	2.79 [2.17; 3.57]	3.02 [2.27; 4.01]	1.54 [1.13; 2.12]	2.17 [1.39; 3.41]	1.77 [1.29; 2.41]	0.86 [0.64; 1.16]	1.67 [1.32; 2.11]

Disability cards and membership of organisations of people with disabilities

Participants were asked directly about their disability through the question "Do you have a disability of any kind?" Overall, 6.8 % of participants answered "yes" to this direct question (Table 17). It should be noted that of the participants identified as people with disabilities by the Washington Group Short Set, just 33.1 % answered "yes" to this direct question on disability. Conversely, 3.6 % of participants who were not identified as having a disability by the Short Set answered "yes" to this direct question.

Table 17: Direct question on disability (Yes/No) as well as disability identified by the Washington Group Short Set

Do you have a disability of any kind?	Total			People with disabilities (WGSS)			People without disabilities (WGSS)		
	N	%	95% CI	N	%	95% CI	N	%	95% CI
Yes	322	6.8	[5.6; 8.3]	169	33.1	[26.4; 40.7]	153	3.6	[2.8; 4.7]
No	4,395	93.2	[91.7; 94.4]	341	66.9	[59.3; 73.6]	4,054	96.4	[95.3; 97.2]

Of the 322 participants who answered "yes" to the direct question on disability, just 16.9 % (N=54) had a disability card, and 6.9 % (N=22) were members of an organisation of people with disabilities. Owing to this small number, the data were not disaggregated. Among the 266 individuals who answered "yes" but did not have a disability card, the most frequently cited reasons were a lack of information (38.0 %), the fact that they had not undergone a clinical assessment (33.1 %) and "does not know" (10.5 %).

Political participation: exploring interactions

As described in the section on methodology, we explored whether the relationships between disability and political participation variables differed for men and for women, and for young adults and for older adults.

The results of the interaction tests (appendix Table 31) suggest that the relationships between disability and the possession of the key documents required for voting are similar for men and for women. Thus, we might expect that the differences between men with and without disabilities would be similar to the differences between women with and without disabilities with regard to the possession of these documents. Similarly, the results suggest

that the relationships between disability and the possession of key documents are similar for younger and older adults (appendix Table 31).

The results also suggest that the relationships between political participation variables and disability are similar for men and for women, except in terms of engagement in political debate (appendix Table 32). Indeed, women with disabilities were around half as likely to be engaged in political debate compared to women without disabilities (OR=0.49 [0.29; 0.82]), while men with disabilities were around three times less likely to be engaged in political debate than men without disabilities (OR=0.33 [0.17; 0.65]).

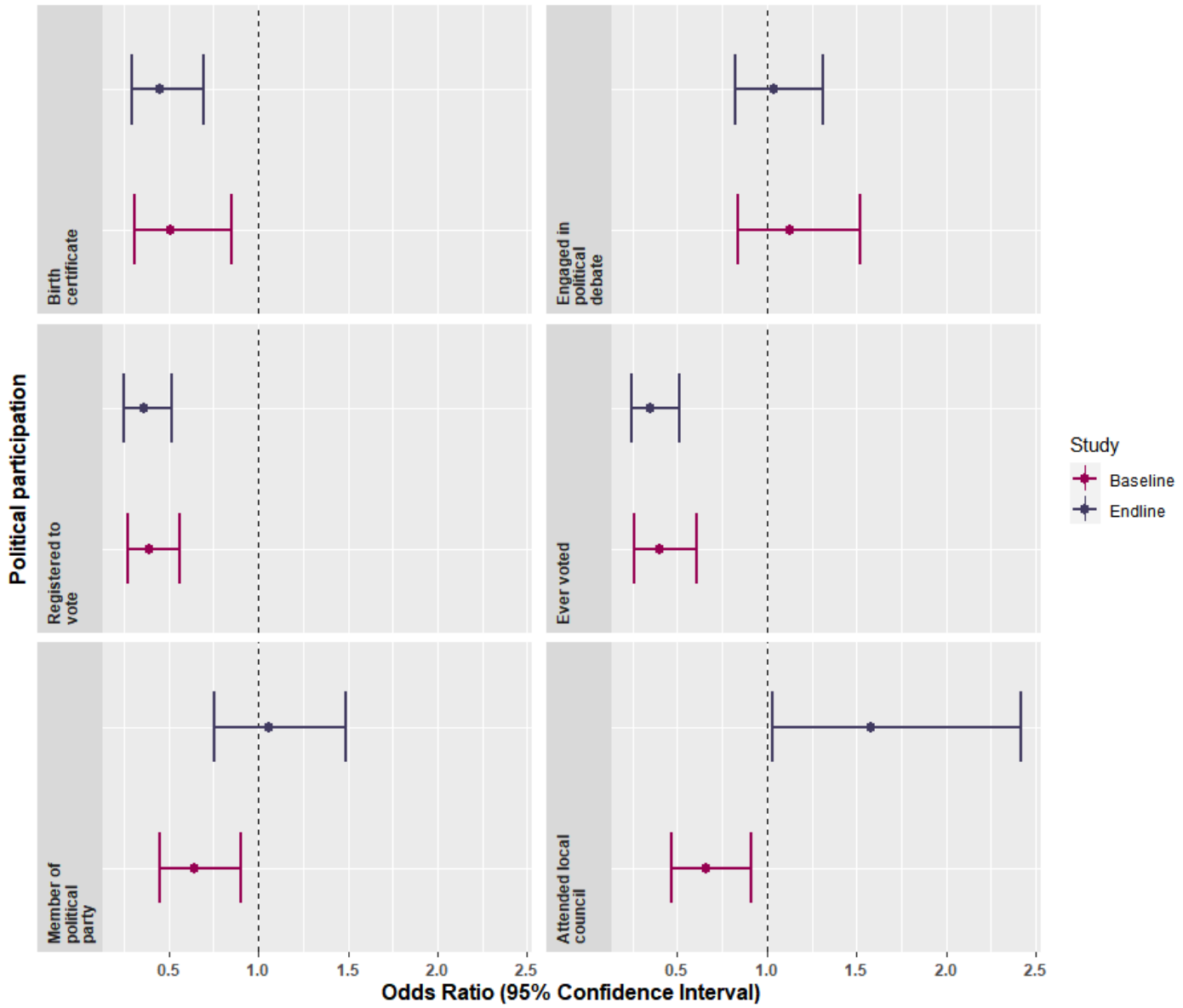
The results of the interaction tests suggest that relationships between disability and political participation variables differ for young adults and for older adults (appendix Table 32). However, the differences observed within the subgroups are generally not statistically significant (appendix Table 33), likely owing to small numbers within the subgroups. It is therefore impossible to draw definitive conclusions on differences between subgroups at this stage.

Gaps between people with and without disabilities: endline study vs. baseline study

We undertook an informal examination of whether the gaps between people with and without disabilities that we observed in the baseline study persisted in the endline study by comparing the results of the logistic models for the political participation variables shared by both studies.

Figure 5 shows that, in general, there was no significant change in the gaps between people with and without disabilities. However, there are two areas with marked differences: the gap has narrowed with regard to political party membership, and it has reversed in relation to local council participation.

Figure 5: Relationships between disability and political participation variables. Forest plot of odds ratios and confidence intervals obtained from multivariate logistic regressions – baseline vs. endline study.



Discussion

The objective of this study was to measure the level of political participation of people with and without disabilities in four regions of Senegal: Louga, Kaolack, Kaffrine and Dakar. To measure political participation, we examined possession of the administrative documents (birth certificates, national ID cards and voter registration cards) that allow citizens to be recognized as voters, as well as voting in elections, political party membership and participation in local council meetings.

Overall, the results show that the vast majority of participants had the documents (birth certificate and national ID card) required for political engagement. Almost 7 out of 10 participants were registered to vote and had a valid voter registration card. Very few people were members of a political party or participated in local (communal) council sessions.

Disability prevalence in our sample (adults aged 18 years and older) was estimated at 10.9 %, almost equal to the figure obtained during the baseline study (15). That figure is consistent with the results of other studies that have used the Washington Group questions to measure disability (23, 24). Disability prevalence was slightly higher among women and also increased with age. The same finding was made in the baseline study (15).

Moreover, there was regional variation in disability, with a significantly higher prevalence observed in the Dakar (Pikine) region compared to the Kaffrine region. We found that people with disabilities had lower levels of education, with more people with disabilities never having attended school in comparison with people without disabilities. Several studies conducted in Senegal have also reported low levels of schooling among people with disabilities (25, 26).

Overall, a higher proportion of people with disabilities reported having the necessary documents for political participation than people without disabilities. However, these differences owed largely to confounders such as age, education, sex and location. Indeed, older people with disabilities in general are known to be more politically active (27). After adjusting for the confounders of age, sex, location, and education, people with disabilities were less likely than people without disabilities to have the documents needed to vote (birth certificates, ID cards, voter registration and valid voter registration cards). People with disabilities were also less likely than people without disabilities to have voted in the last elections. Our baseline study in Senegal showed that, adjusting for the same confounders, people with disabilities were significantly less likely to have a birth certificate and to be registered to vote (15). The results of a study on political participation in Nepal also highlighted that during the last elections in 2017, people with disabilities were very likely to

be excluded from voter registration because they lacked citizenship certificates (national ID cards), which are a prerequisite for political participation (28).

Our results revealed that people aged 36 and older were generally more likely to be politically engaged, that is, to have the necessary documents and to have voted, compared to young adults aged 35 or younger. As reported by Norris et al. (2002), age is an important demographic factor that influences voter turnout. They note that young adults eligible to vote generally show little interest in voting (29). In Senegal, the last review of the electoral register revealed a low level of interest in elections, particularly local elections, among young people (30). According to the Autonomous National Electoral Commission, the electoral register review completed on 14 September found that just 257,000 young adults were registered to vote. By comparison, this figure had been almost 400,000 during the previous review in 2018 (30). It is important to note, however, that older adults will have had more opportunities to vote because, by definition, they have been of voting age for longer.

Our results also showed that participants with higher levels of education were more likely to have a birth certificate, national ID card and valid voter registration card, and to be registered to vote, than those who had never attended school. Additionally, participants with higher levels of education were more likely to engage in political debate, to have voted and to be members of political parties (28). The literature on barriers to political participation for people with disabilities in other contexts also shows that low levels of education hinder their full participation (31, 32). People with higher levels of education may be better able to understand complex political information, and they are also more likely to know where and how to obtain the necessary documents and then fulfil all the requirements to engage in politics. It is possible that low levels of education among people with disabilities mean that key documents are not issued, thereby limiting their ability to vote.

The results showed that women were more likely to be registered with a political party and to be a member of an economic association or citizen movement. In terms of women's involvement in political life, Senegal serves as an example in sub-Saharan Africa. According to the Inter-Parliamentary Union and UN Women, Senegal ranks eleventh in the world and fourth on the continent, behind South Africa, Namibia and Rwanda, in terms of women's representation in the National Assembly (33).

Despite the fact that numerous activities – including awareness-raising, training, financial support and advocacy – were implemented throughout this political participation project with the involvement of key stakeholders at the national and community levels, the endline study showed no significant change in the gaps between people with and without disabilities in

terms of possession of the administrative documents required to vote. These results may stem from the limited scope of the interventions, which targeted a relatively small number of people with disabilities owing primarily to the health restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic, which influenced the impact of the planned interventions. The COVID-19 pandemic also affected the electoral calendar and political participation in many countries around the world (34).

Lastly, it is important to note that the results of this study relate to the selected urban areas of Senegal and cannot be extrapolated to the entire country.

In conclusion, the results of this endline study confirm the presence of inequalities in political participation between people with and without disabilities. These inequalities represent a real problem in Senegal that must be resolved through the implementation of more inclusive policies and interventions, particularly better access for people with disabilities to the administrative documents that are essential to political participation and the implementation of more inclusive electoral processes. Future research should focus on better understanding the intersectionality of disability with other markers of disadvantage and the impact of specific disability-inclusive interventions.

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Appendixes

Sample characteristics

Table 18: Characteristics of the sample – by study location

		Kaffrine			Kaolack			Louga			Pikine		
Age (years)	Median (interquartile range (IQR))	31 (21-45)			34 (23-50)			33 (24-50)			33 (24-50)		
		N	%	[95%CI]	N	%	[95%CI]	N	%	[95%CI]	N	%	[95%CI]
Highest level of education achieved	Never attended school	243	42.8	[36.1-49.7]	957	39.8	[35.6-44.2]	367	35.7	[25.8-46.9]	187	25.9	[24.0-27.9]
	Primary	142	25.0	[18.8-32.5]	561	23.3	[21.6-25.2]	303	29.5	[25.1-34.2]	222	30.8	[27.2-34.5]
	Secondary	114	20.1	[15.5-25.7]	669	27.8	[25.3-30.5]	257	25.0	[19.1-32.0]	210	29.1	[26.1-32.3]
	Technical/vocational education	33	5.8	[4.0-8.4]	38	1.6	[1.1-2.2]	29	2.8	[2.0-3.9]	24	3.3	[2.1-5.2]
	University	36	6.3	[3.4-11.5]	179	7.5	[6.2-8.9]	73	7.1	[5.5-9.2]	79	10.9	[8.5-14.0]
General health	Poor	61	10.7	[8.7-13.2]	218	9.1	[7.5-10.9]	136	13.2	[10.4-16.7]	85	11.8	[9.5-14.5]
	Acceptable	294	51.8	[46.6-56.9]	1,158	48.2	[44.8-51.6]	484	47.1	[42.2-52.0]	412	57.1	[49.0-64.9]
	Excellent	213	37.5	[33.3-41.9]	1,028	42.8	[39.1-46.5]	408	39.7	[35.1-44.5]	224	31.1	[23.8-39.5]
Occupation	Education or training	89	15.7	[11.5-21.0]	377	15.7	[14.0-17.5]	135	13.1	[10.3-16.6]	109	15.1	[11.4-19.7]
	Works in agriculture or fishing	17	3.0	[1.3-6.8]	26	1.1	[0.7-1.7]	7	0.7	[0.3-1.6]	3	0.4	[0.1-1.2]
	Works in a sector other than agriculture or fishing	253	44.5	[39.0-50.2]	813	33.8	[31.6-36.1]	436	42.4	[33.3-52.0]	184	25.5	[21.8-29.5]
	Looking for work	21	3.7	[2.1-6.7]	124	5.2	[3.9-6.7]	54	5.3	[3.5-7.9]	79	10.9	[7.8-15.1]
	Engaged in household or family responsibilities	156	27.5	[24.5-30.7]	541	22.5	[20.6-24.5]	238	23.1	[20.8-25.6]	147	20.4	[17.5-23.5]
	Long-term illness or disability	12	2.1	[1.1-4.0]	73	3.0	[2.2-4.2]	28	2.72	[1.6-4.7]	12	1.7	[0.8-3.3]
	Retired or in receipt of a pension	15	2.6	[1.7-4.2]	141	5.9	[5.0-6.8]	50	4.9	[3.3-7.1]	41	5.7	[4.4-7.3]
	Other	5	0.9	[0.4-1.8]	309	12.9	[9.3-17.4]	81	7.9	[2.6-21.3]	147	20.4	[17.0-24.2]
Sex	Male	205	36.1	[31.5-41.0]	897	37.3	[34.2-40.5]	348	33.8	[30.7-37.1]	257	35.6	[31.5-39.9]

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	Female	363	63.1	[59.0-68.5]	1,507	62.7	[59.5-65.8]	681	66.2	[62.9-69.4]	465	64.4	[60.1-68.5]
Urban quintile (equity tool)	1	27	4.8	[1.0-19.1]	55	2.3	[1.0-5.1]	21	2.0	[0.6-6.4]	4	0.6	[0.1-4.4]
	2	160	28.2	[17.1-42.7]	385	16.0	[11.1-22.6]	119	11.6	[8.3-15.8]	41	5.7	[3.1-10.1]
	3	215	37.9	[28.2-48.6]	1,069	44.5	[38.9-50.2]	399	38.8	[30.1-48.2]	270	37.4	[28.7-47.0]
	4	152	26.76	[18.2-37.5]	886	36.86	[29.3-45.1]	435	42.3	[35.1-49.8]	351	48.61	[41.2-56.1]
	5	14	2.46	[0.6-9.6]	9	0.37	[0.08-1.6]	55	5.3	[2.7-10.4]	56	7.76	[4.8-12.4]

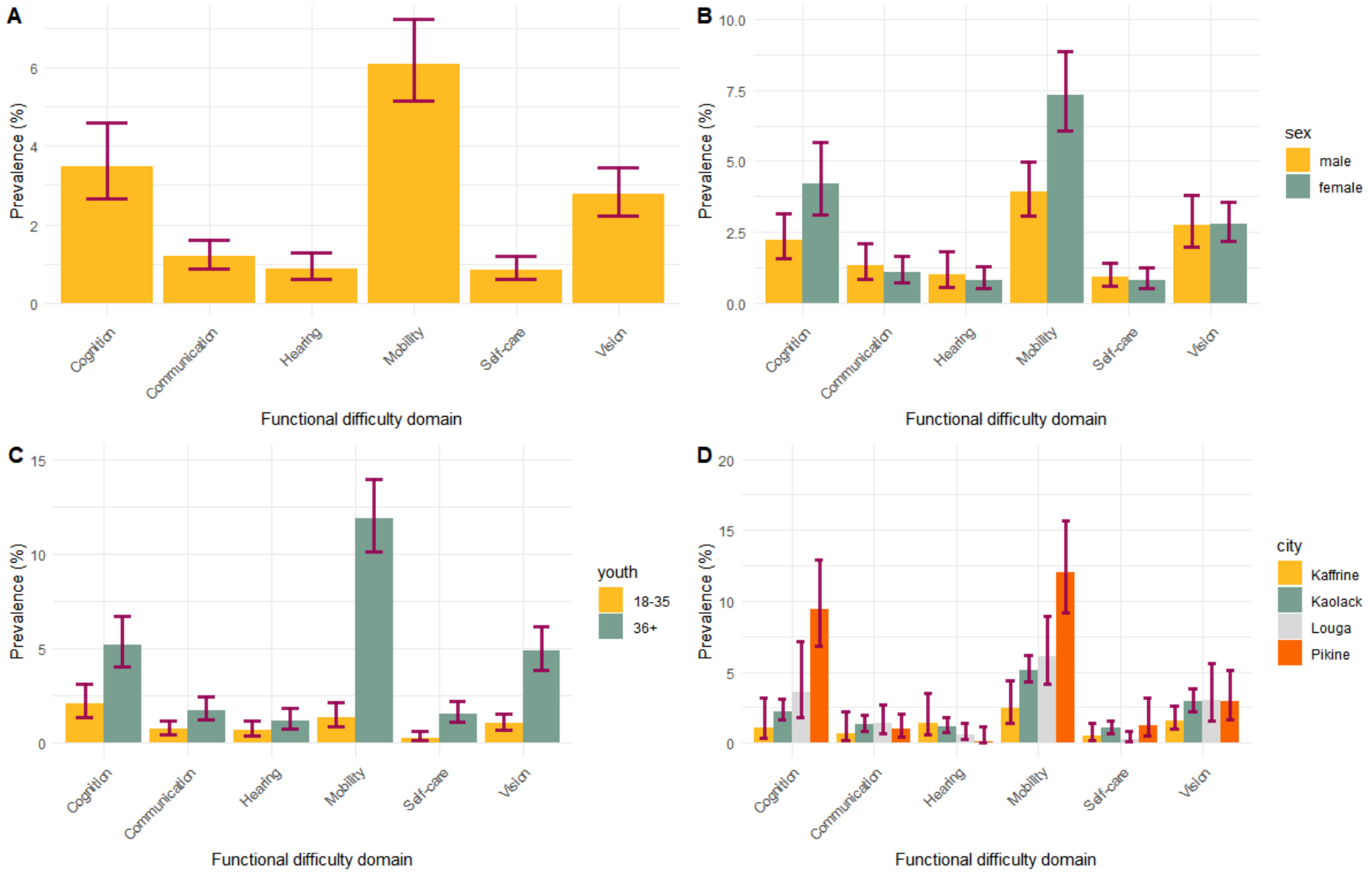
Prevalence of disability

Type of functional disability (Washington Group Short Set)

As shown in Figure 6, the most common types of disability were mobility impairments (6.1 %), followed by cognitive (3.5 %) and visual impairments (2.8 %). The different types of disability were generally more prevalent among women than men, with the largest difference observed for mobility impairments (7.3 % of women, versus 3.9 % of men). All types of disability were more prevalent among adults aged 36 and older than among young adults, with the largest differences seen in the domains of mobility (1.4 % versus 11.9 %) and vision (1.0 % compared to 4.9 %). There were also significant regional variations in cognition (the highest prevalence was in Pikine, at 9.4 %, and the lowest in Kaffrine, at 1.1 %) and mobility (the highest prevalence was in Pikine, at 12.1 %, and the lowest in Kaffrine, at 2.5 %).

Overall, 3.0 % of participants reported having two or more types of disability simultaneously.

Figure 6: Prevalence of types of functional difficulty (Washington Group Short Set) overall (A), by sex (B), youth (C) and location (D). Error bars represent 95 % confidence intervals.



Sightsavers

Possession of the necessary documents

Table 19: Possession of necessary documents among young adults and older adults

		Young adults			Older adults		
		N	%	95% CI	N	%	95%CI
Birth certificate	Yes	2,442	94.3	[92.9; 95.4]	2,086	97.9	[97.2; 98.5]
	No	148	5.7	[4.6; 7.1]	44	2.1	[1.5; 2.8]
National identity card	Yes	1,860	71.8	[69.8; 73.8]	2,046	96.1	[95.0; 97.0]
	No	730	28.19	[26.2; 30.2]	83	3.9	[3.0; 5.0]
Currently registered to vote	Yes	1,345	52.0	[49.4; 54.5]	1,782	83.7	[80.9; 86.3]
	No	1,243	48.0	[45.5; 50.6]	346	16.3	[13.7; 19.1]
Reasons for not registering (N=1,589)	I did not think I was eligible	103	8.3	[5.9; 11.6]	5	1.5	[0.6; 3.5]
	Family and/or community members would not allow it	15	1.2	[0.7; 2.1]	19	5.5	[3.2; 9.3]
	Lack of necessary information	111	8.9	[6.8; 11.6]	39	11.3	[7.6; 16.4]
	Lack of necessary documents	519	41.8	[36.0; 47.7]	46	13.3	[9.4; 18.5]
	The necessary documents are not accessible	115	9.3	[7.1; 11.9]	16	4.6	[2.7; 7.7]
	The registration centre is not accessible	8	0.6	[0.3; 1.5]	1	0.3	[0.0; 2.2]
	Not interested in politics	188	15.1	[12.2; 18.6]	102	29.5	[22.6; 37.4]
	Other	184	14.8	[10.6; 20.3]	118	34.1	[26.6; 42.5]
Valid voter registration card	Yes	1,381	53.3	[51.3; 55.4]	1,890	88.9	[86.7; 90.8]
	No	1,208	46.7	[44.6; 48.7]	236	11.1	[9.2; 13.3]

Table 20: Possession of the necessary documents – by location

		Kaffrine			Kaolack			Louga			Pikine		
		N	%	[95%CI]	N	%	[95%CI]	N	%	[95%CI]	N	%	[95%CI]
Birth certificate	Yes	2,312	96.2	[95.1; 97.1]	531	93.5	[90.2; 95.7]	989	96.3	[94.3; 97.6]	696	96.4	[93.3; 98.1]
	No	91	3.8	[2.9; 4.9]	37	6.5	[4.3; 9.8]	38	3.7	[2.4; 5.7]	26	3.6	[1.9; 6.7]
National identity card	Yes	1,950	81.2	[79.1; 83.1]	454	79.9	[75.8; 83.5]	875	85.3	[81.6; 88.3]	627	86.8	[83.4; 89.7]
	No	453	18.9	[16.9; 21.0]	114	20.1	[16.5; 24.2]	151	14.7	[11.7; 18.4]	95	13.2	[10.3; 16.6]
Currently registered to vote	Yes	1,494	62.2	[59.3; 65.0]	409	72.0	[66.2; 77.1]	736	71.8	[67.4; 75.9]	488	67.6	[60.9; 73.6]
	No	907	37.8	[35.0; 40.7]	159	28.0	[22.9; 33.8]	289	28.2	[24.1; 32.6]	234	32.4	[26.4; 39.1]
Reasons for not registering (N=1,589)	I did not think I was eligible	49	5.4	[3.5; 8.3]	6	3.8	[1.2; 11.2]	23	8	[2.4; 23.0]	30	12.8	[8.2; 19.6]
	Family and/or community members would not allow it	24	2.7	[1.5; 4.6]	0	0	[0.0; 0.0]	7	2.4	[0.9; 6.4]	3	1.3	[0.3; 4.9]
	Lack of necessary information	85	9.4	[6.7; 13.1]	18	11.3	[6.8; 18.3]	32	11.1	[5.6; 20.6]	15	6.4	[3.2; 12.5]
	Lack of necessary documents	220	24.3	[20.9; 28.0]	109	68.6	[58.1; 77.4]	160	55.4	[41.5; 68.5]	76	32.5	[26.1; 39.6]
	The necessary documents are not accessible	90	9.9	[7.2; 13.5]	12	7.6	[2.8; 19.0]	13	4.5	[2.5; 8.0]	16	6.8	[4.4; 10.5]
	The registration centre is not accessible	7	0.8	[0.3; 2.0]	0	0	-	1	0.4	[0.0; 2.8]	1	0.4	[0.1; 3.8]
	Not interested in politics	185	20.4	[16.1; 25.5]	7	4.4	[1.4; 13.3]	37	12.8	[6.2; 24.7]	61	26.1	[19.5; 33.9]
	Other	247	27.2	[21.1; 34.4]	7	4.4	[1.6; 11.5]	16	5.5	[1.9; 14.8]	32	13.7	[9.3; 19.6]
Valid voter registration card	Yes	1,631	67.9	[65.5; 70.3]	391	68.8	[63.2; 74.0]	734	71.6	[68.1; 74.9]	515	71.4	[66.3; 76.1]
	No	770	32.1	[29.7; 34.5]	177	31.2	[26.0; 36.8]	291	28.4	[25.1; 31.9]	206	28.6	[23.9; 33.7]

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Voter participation

Table 21: Participation in past elections among young adults and older adults

		Young adults			Older adults		
		N	%	95% CI	N	%	95%CI
Has voted	Yes	1,075	41.5	[39.6; 43.5]	1,922	90.6	[88.1; 92.6]
	No	1,514	58.5	[56.5; 60.5]	200	9.4	[7.4; 11.9]
Year of last vote (N=2,997)	Does not know/does not remember	17	1.6	[1.0; 2.6]	88	4.6	[3.5; 6.0]
	2019	977	90.9	[88.7; 92.7]	1,703	88.6	[86.6; 90.3]
	2017	35	3.3	[1.9; 5.5]	37	1.9	[1.1; 3.3]
	2016	7	0.7	[0.3; 1.4]	10	0.5	[0.3; 1.0]
	2014	9	0.8	[0.4; 2.0]	15	0.8	[0.5; 1.2]
	Pre-2014	30	2.8	[1.9; 4.1]	69	3.6	[2.7; 4.8]
Type of election at which they last voted (N=2,997)	Does not know/does not remember	15	1.4	[0.8; 2.4]	71	3.7	[2.7; 5.0]
	Presidential	1,004	93.4	[91.1; 95.1]	1,761	91.6	[89.8; 93.2]
	Local (municipal, regional or departmental)	13	1.2	[0.6; 2.4]	19	1.0	[0.6; 1.6]
	Parliamentary	7	0.7	[0.3; 1.3]	8	0.4	[0.2; 0.8]
	Referendum	34	3.2	[1.8; 5.5]	42	2.2	[1.1; 4.2]
	Other	2	0.2	[0.1; 0.8]	21	1.1	[0.7; 1.7]
Reasons for never having voted (N=1,714)	I did not think I was eligible	75	5.0	[3.1; 7.8]	1	0.5	[0.1; 3.8]
	Family and/or community members would not allow it	13	0.9	[0.4; 1.9]	8	4.0	[1.9; 8.3]
	Lack of necessary information	47	3.1	[2.2; 4.3]	3	1.5	[0.5; 4.7]
	Lack of necessary documents	476	31.4	[27.2; 36]	42	21.0	[14.7; 29.1]
	The necessary documents are not accessible	111	7.3	[5.8; 9.3]	8	4.0	[1.9; 8.4]
	The registration centre is not accessible	9	0.6	[0.2; 1.5]	1	0.5	[0.1; 3.6]
	Not interested in politics	170	11.2	[8.7; 14.4]	65	32.5	[25.3; 40.7]
	Was underage	439	29.0	[25.5; 32.8]	7	3.5	[1.4; 8.3]
	Other	174	11.5	[8.4; 15.6]	65	32.5	[26.0; 39.7]

Table 22: Participation in past elections – by study location

		Kaolack			Kaffrine			Louga			Pikine		
		N	%	95% CI	N	%	95%CI	N	%	95%CI	N	%	95%CI
Has voted	Yes	1,461	61.0	[58.5; 63.4]	352	62.0	[56.3; 67.3]	699	68.1	[65.3; 70.9]	485	67.3	[61.5; 72.6]
	No	935	39.02	[36.6; 41.5]	216	38.0	[32.7; 43.7]	327	31.9	[29.1; 34.8]	236	32.7	[27.5; 38.5]
Year of last vote (N=2,997)	Does not know/does not remember	68	4.7	[3.7; 5.8]	2	0.6	[0.1; 2.6]	14	2.0	[0.8; 4.7]	21	4.3	[2.0; 9.0]
	2019	1,321	90.4	[88.6; 92.0]	304	86.4	[81.2; 90.3]	615	88.0	[82.9; 91.7]	440	90.7	[84.8; 94.5]
	2017	10	0.7	[0.3; 1.4]	31	8.8	[6.1; 12.5]	28	4.0	[1.4; 10.8]	3	0.6	[0.2; 2.0]
	2016	12	0.8	[0.4; 1.6]	1	0.3	[0.0; 1.9]	0	0	-	4	0.8	[0.2; 2.8]
	2014	21	1.4	[0.9; 2.2]	2	0.6	[0.1; 2.6]	0	0	-	1	0.2	[0.0; 1.7]
	Pre-2014	29	2.0	[1.3; 3.1]	12	3.4	[1.9; 6.1]	42	6.0	[4.6; 7.9]	16	3.3	[1.7; 6.5]
Type of election at which they last voted (N=2,997)	Does not know/does not remember	54	3.7	[2.7; 5.0]	2	0.6	[0.1; 2.6]	14	2.0	[0.9; 4.4]	16	3.3	[1.4; 7.5]
	Presidential	1,343	91.9	[89.9; 93.6]	315	89.5	[85.1; 92.7]	648	92.7	[86.7; 96.1]	459	94.6	[90.3; 97.1]
	Local (municipal, regional or departmental)	26	1.8	[1.1; 2.8]	0	0	-	2	0.3	[0.1; 1.0]	4	0.8	[0.2; 3.5]
	Parliamentary	4	0.3	[0.1; 0.7]	2	0.6	[0.2; 2.1]	6	0.9	[0.4; 2.1]	3	0.6	[0.2; 2.0]
	Referendum	13	0.9	[0.5; 1.6]	33	9.4	[6.5; 13.4]	27	3.9	[0.9; 14.9]	3	0.6	[0.2; 1.9]
	Other	21	1.44	[1.0; 2.1]	0	0	-	2	0.3	[0.1; 1.1]	0	0.0	-
Reasons for never having voted (N=1,714)	I did not think I was eligible	28	2.99	[1.6; 5.5]	3	1.4	[0.3; 7.4]	17	5.2	[1.1; 21.9]	28	11.9	[7.4; 18.5]
	Family and/or community members would not allow it	13	1.4	[0.6; 3.5]	0	0.0	-	6	1.8	[0.8; 4.0]	2	0.9	[0.1; 5.9]
	Lack of necessary information	21	2.3	[1.5; 3.4]	17	7.9	[5.3; 11.6]	11	3.4	[1.7; 6.6]	1	0.4	[0.1; 3.5]
	Lack of necessary documents	196	21.0	[18.3; 23.9]	93	43.1	[33.1; 53.7]	154	47.1	[38.4; 56.0]	75	31.8	[24.6; 39.9]
	The necessary documents are not accessible	82	8.8	[6.8; 11.3]	14	6.5	[3.6; 11.5]	9	2.85	[1.3; 5.8]	14	5.9	[3.2; 10.6]

	The registration centre is not accessible	7	0.8	[0.2; 2.3]	1	0.5	[0.1; 2.8]	2	0.6	[0.2; 2.1]	0	0.0	[0.0; 0.0]
	Not interested in politics	144	15.4	[11.4; 20.4]	8	3.7	[1.7; 8.0]	34	10.4	[6.3; 16.7]	49	20.8	[15.8; 26.8]
	Was underage	250	26.7	[22.1; 32.0]	71	32.9	[24.7; 42.2]	71	21.7	[16.5; 28.0]	54	22.9	[18.5; 28.0]
	Other	194	20.8	[16.3; 26.1]	9	4.2	[2.4; 7.0]	23	7.0	[3.4; 14.1]	13	5.5	[2.9; 10.3]

Participation in political debate

Table 23: Participation in political debate among young adults and older adults

		Young adults			Older adults		
		N	%	95% CI	N	%	95% CI
Participation in political debate	Yes	946	36.6	[32.0; 41.4]	1,002	47.3	[42.3; 52.4]
	No	1,642	63.5	[58.6; 68.1]	1,116	52.7	[47.6; 57.7]
Main source of information (N=1,948)	Radio	89	9.4	[7.3; 12.0]	209	20.9	[18.0; 24.0]
	Television	300	31.7	[27.8; 35.9]	357	35.6	[30.6; 41.0]
	Newspapers	14	1.5	[0.9; 2.5]	10	1.0	[0.5; 1.9]
	Friends and family	197	20.8	[16.7; 25.7]	185	18.5	[15.4; 22.0]
	Internet	190	20.1	[16.2; 24.6]	60	6.0	[3.9; 9.0]
	Local council offices	93	9.8	[7.4; 12.9]	79	7.9	[5.7; 10.8]
	Community and religious leaders	46	4.9	[3.2; 7.4]	82	8.2	[5.5; 11.9]
	Organisations of people with disabilities	6	0.6	[0.3; 1.6]	3	0.3	[0.1; 1.0]
	NGO	4	0.4	[0.2; 1.2]	8	0.8	[0.4; 1.6]
	Other	7	0.7	[0.4; 1.5]	9	0.9	[0.4; 1.8]

Table 24: Participation in political debate – by study location

		Kaffrine			Kaolack			Louga			Pikine		
		N	%	[95%CI]	N	%	[95%CI]	N	%	[95%CI]	N	%	[95%CI]
Participation in political debate	Yes	801	33.4	[26.6; 41.0]	243	42.8	[38.4; 47.3]	500	49.1	[38.8; 59.4]	404	56.2	[51.2; 61.1]
	No	1,599	66.6	[59.0; 73.5]	325	57.2	[52.7; 61.7]	519	50.9	[40.6; 61.2]	315	43.8	[38.9; 48.8]
Main source of information (N=1,948)	Radio	117	14.6	[11.6; 18.2]	32	13.2	[6.8; 24.0]	105	21.0	[18.2; 24.1]	44	10.9	[7.2; 16.1]
	Television	342	42.70	[38.5; 47.0]	29	11.9	[7.7; 18.1]	120	24.0	[21.5; 26.7]	166	41.1	[35.0; 47.5]
	Newspapers	12	1.50	[0.7; 3.2]	4	1.7	[0.6; 4.7]	3	0.6	[0.2; 2.1]	5	1.2	[0.4; 3.4]
	Friends and family	201	25.1	[21.4; 29.2]	71	29.2	[21.4; 38.5]	76	15.2	[10.6; 21.3]	34	8.4	[3.8; 17.6]
	Internet	55	6.9	[4.8; 9.7]	28	11.5	[7.2; 17.9]	84	16.8	[10.8; 25.3]	83	20.5	[15.2; 27.2]
	Local council offices	26	3.3	[1.9; 5.4]	27	11.1	[7.1; 17.0]	66	13.2	[10.8; 16.0]	53	13.1	[8.7; 19.2]
	Community and religious leaders	30	3.8	[2.6; 5.3]	48	19.8	[12.5; 29.8]	41	8.2	[4.0; 16.2]	9	2.2	[1.2; 4.2]
	Organisations of people with disabilities	4	0.5	[0.2; 1.5]	0	0.0	[0.0; 0.0]	2	0.4	[0.1; 1.7]	3	0.7	[0.2; 3.6]
	NGO	7	0.87	[0.4; 2.0]	2	0.8	[0.1; 7.9]	2	0.4	[0.1; 1.4]	1	0.3	[0.0; 2.0]
	Other	7	0.87	[0.4; 1.9]	2	0.8	[0.2; 4.0]	1	0.2	[0.0; 1.4]	6	1.5	[0.6; 3.8]

Political party membership

Table 25: Political party membership among young and older adults

		Young adults			Older adults		
		N	%	95% CI	N	%	95% CI
Registered member of a political party	Yes	217	8.4	[6.5; 10.8]	308	14.5	[11.8; 17.8]
	No	2,371	91.6	[89.2; 93.5]	1,810	85.5	[82.3; 88.2]
Has attempted to join a political party (N=4,181)	Yes	97	4.1	[2.9; 5.7]	112	6.2	[4.8; 8.0]
	No	2,270	95.9	[94.3; 97.1]	1,697	93.8	[92.0; 95.2]
Reasons for not joining (N=4,181) Registered member of a political party	I did not think I was eligible	94	4.0	[2.7; 5.8]	17	0.9	[0.6; 1.5]
	Family and/or community members would not allow it	84	3.5	[2.5; 5.1]	57	3.2	[2.3; 4.3]
	Lack of necessary information	226	9.5	[7.0; 12.9]	201	11.1	[8.2; 14.8]
	Lack of necessary documents	232	9.8	[7.7; 12.3]	51	2.8	[2.0; 4.1]
	The necessary documents are not accessible	44	1.9	[1.2; 2.9]	15	0.8	[0.5; 1.4]
	The registration centre is not accessible	3	0.1	[0.0; 0.4]	1	0.1	[0.0; 0.4]
	Not interested in politics	1,237	52.2	[49.1; 55.3]	956	52.8	[49.6; 56.1]
	Other	451	19.0	[14.9; 23.9]	512	28.3	[23.5; 33.6]

Table 26: Political party membership – by study location

		Kaffrine			Kaolack			Louga			Pikine		
		N	%	[95%CI]	N	%	[95%CI]	N	%	[95%CI]	N	%	[95%CI]
Registered member of a political party	Yes	129	5.4	[4.3; 6.7]	166	29.2	[25.8; 32.9]	144	14.1	[12.0; 16.6]	86	11.9	[9.0; 15.7]
	No	2,269	94.6	[93.3; 95.7]	402	70.8	[67.1; 74.2]	875	85.9	[83.4; 88.0]	635	88.1	[84.4; 91.0]
Has attempted to join a political party (N=4,181)	Yes	45	2.0	[1.2; 3.2]	15	3.7	[2.1; 6.7]	77	8.8	[5.8; 13.1]	72	11.3	[8.6; 14.8]
	No	2,220	98.0	[96.8; 98.8]	387	96.3	[93.3; 97.9]	797	91.2	[86.9; 94.2]	563	88.7	[85.3; 91.4]
	I did not think I was eligible	36	1.6	[0.9; 2.8]	11	2.7	[1.4; 5.3]	32	3.7	[1.4; 9.0]	32	5.0	[3.3; 7.7]

Reasons for not joining (N=4,181)	Family and/or community members would not allow it	87	3.8	[2.5; 5.8]	7	1.7	[0.5; 5.8]	34	3.9	[2.4; 6.3]	13	2.1	[0.9; 4.5]
	Lack of necessary information	190	8.4	[5.4; 12.8]	99	24.6	[16.9; 34.5]	115	13.1	[6.9; 23.6]	23	3.6	[2.0; 6.6]
	Lack of necessary documents	100	4.4	[3.3; 6.0]	78	19.4	[11.9; 30.1]	74	8.5	[5.1; 13.7]	31	4.9	[3.1; 7.7]
	The necessary documents are not accessible	38	1.7	[1.0; 2.8]	14	3.5	[2.6; 4.7]	5	0.6	[0.2; 1.5]	2	0.3	[0.1; 1.3]
	The registration centre is not accessible	3	0.1	[0.0; 0.4]	0	0.0	-	0	0.0	-	1	0.12	[0.0; 1.2]
	Not interested in politics	1,238	54.6	[50.8; 58.3]	165	41.0	[33.6; 48.9]	438	50.0	[45.4; 54.7]	352	55.4	[50.0; 60.8]
	Other	577	25.4	[19.1; 33.0]	28	7.0	[4.6; 10.5]	177	20.2	[11.0; 34.1]	181	28.5	[24.9; 32.5]

Local political participation and representation

Table 27: Local political representation among young adults and older adults

		Young adults			Older adults		
		N	%	95% CI	N	%	95%CI
Local representative or candidate of a political party	Yes	64	2.5	[1.8; 3.4]	120	5.7	[4.6; 7.0]
	No	2,522	97.5	[96.6; 98.2]	1,998	94.3	[93.0; 95.4]
Wished to become a local representative or candidate of a political party (N=4,520)	Yes	64	2.5	[1.8; 3.5]	72	3.6	[2.6; 4.9]
	No	2,455	97.5	[96.5; 98.2]	1,921	96.4	[95.1; 97.4]
Registered to become a local representative or candidate of a political party (N=136)	Yes	12	18.8	[11.0; 30.2]	24	33.3	[23.3; 45.2]
	No	52	81.3	[69.8; 89.0]	48	66.7	[54.8; 76.8]
Reasons for not registering (N=100)	Does not meet the requirements	23	44.2	[30.6; 58.8]	11	22.9	[12.4; 38.4]

	Cannot meet voters' needs	1	1.9	[0.2; 13.6]	3	6.3	[1.8; 19.2]
	Behavioural barriers	4	7.7	[2.7; 20.1]	11	22.9	[12.8; 37.7]
	Physical barriers	1	1.9	[0.3; 12.7]	2	4.2	[1.0; 16.2]
	Other	23	44.2	[30.1; 59.4]	21	43.8	[28.8; 60.0]
Has attended or observed a local council session	Yes	245	9.5	[7.5; 12.0]	280	13.3	[11.1; 15.8]
	No	2,333	90.5	[88.0; 92.5]	1,832	86.7	[84.2; 88.9]
Reasons for not participating (N=4,165)	I did not think I was eligible	96	4.1	[2.8; 5.9]	21	1.2	[0.7; 1.9]
	Family and/or community members would not allow it	80	3.4	[2.3; 5.0]	55	3.0	[2.2; 4.1]
	Lack of necessary information	390	16.7	[12.5; 22.1]	306	16.7	[12.6; 21.9]
	Lack of necessary documents	225	9.6	[7.7; 12.0]	72	3.9	[2.8; 5.4]
	The necessary documents are not accessible	43	1.8	[1.1; 3.1]	29	1.6	[1.0; 2.5]
	The town hall building is not accessible	1	0.0	[0.0; 0.3]	0	0.0	[0.0; 0.0]
	Not interested in politics	1,121	48.1	[43.8; 52.4]	902	49.2	[45.3; 53.2]
	Other	377	16.2	[12.2; 21.1]	447	24.4	[19.4; 30.2]
Participated in or observed a local or religious committee	Yes	398	15.4	[12.9; 18.4]	453	21.4	[18.3; 24.9]
	No	2,182	84.6	[81.6; 87.1]	1,662	78.6	[75.1; 81.7]

Table 28: Local political representation – by study location

		Kaffrine			Kaolack			Louga			Pikine		
		N	%	[95%CI]	N	%	[95%CI]	N	%	[95%CI]	N	%	[95%CI]
Local representative or candidate of a political party	Yes	72	3.0	[2.4; 3.8]	49	8.6	[6.7; 11.1]	44	4.3	[2.7; 6.8]	19	2.6	[1.5; 4.7]
	No	2,324	97	[96.2; 97.6]	519	91.4	[88.9; 93.4]	975	95.7	[93.2; 97.3]	702	97.4	[95.3; 98.5]
Wished to become a local representative or candidate of a political party (N=4,520)	Yes	31	1.3	[0.8; 2.1]	13	2.5	[1.8; 3.5]	35	3.6	[1.9; 6.8]	57	8.1	[5.9; 11.2]
	No	2,286	98.7	[97.9; 99.2]	506	97.5	[96.6; 98.2]	939	96.4	[93.2; 98.1]	645	91.9	[88.8; 94.2]
Has attended or observed a local council session	Yes	151	6.3	[4.6; 8.6]	47	8.3	[6.2; 11.0]	175	17.1	[13.2; 21.9]	152	21.1	[17.6; 25.2]
	No	2,232	93.7	[91.4; 95.4]	520	91.7	[89.0; 93.8]	846	82.9	[78.1; 86.8]	567	78.9	[74.8; 82.4]
Reasons for not participating (N=4,165)	I did not think I was eligible	37	1.7	[0.8; 3.3]	24	4.6	[3.2; 6.7]	35	4.1	[1.8; 9.1]	21	3.7	[2.1; 6.6]
	Family and/or community members would not allow it	83	3.7	[2.4; 5.8]	13	2.5	[1.1; 5.5]	29	3.4	[2.3; 5.2]	10	1.8	[0.7; 4.1]
	Lack of necessary information	236	10.6	[7.3; 15.1]	222	42.7	[35.0; 50.7]	212	25.1	[15.0; 38.8]	26	4.6	[2.4; 8.6]
	Lack of necessary documents	95	4.3	[3.0; 6.1]	80	15.4	[10.2; 22.5]	84	9.9	[6.7; 14.5]	38	6.7	[4.9; 9.2]
	The necessary documents are not accessible	36	1.6	[0.7; 3.6]	24	4.6	[3.1; 6.7]	10	1.2	[0.6; 2.2]	2	0.4	[0.1; 1.5]
	The town hall building is not accessible	1	0.0	[0.0; 0.3]	0	0.0	[0.0; 0.0]	0	0.0	[0.0; 0.0]	0	0.0	[0.0; 0.0]
	Not interested in politics	1,215	54.4	[51.0; 57.8]	132	25.4	[21.1; 30.3]	342	40.4	[35.4; 45.6]	334	58.9	[52.7; 64.8]
	Other	529	23.7	[17.6; 31.1]	25	4.8	[2.7; 8.5]	134	15.8	[6.8; 32.8]	136	24.0	[19.9; 28.6]

Participated in or observed a local or religious committee	Yes	275	11.6	[8.4; 15.6]	99	17.4	[13.1; 22.8]	279	27.2	[22.7; 32.2]	198	27.5	[23.4; 32.0]
	No	2,106	88.5	[84.4; 91.6]	469	82.6	[77.2; 86.9]	746	72.8	[67.8; 77.3]	523	72.5	[68.1; 76.6]

Participation in citizen movements and economic associations

Table 29: Membership of citizen movements and economic associations – youth

		Young adults (18–35 years old)			Older adults (36 years and older)		
		N	%	95% CI	N	%	95% CI
Member of a citizen movement	Yes	552	21.3	[18.0; 25.1]	642	30.2	[26.2; 34.5]
	No	2,035	78.7	[74.9; 82.0]	1,485	69.8	[65.5; 73.8]
Member of an economic association	Yes	620	24.0	[20.4; 28.0]	672	31.6	[27.9; 35.6]
	No	1,964	76.0	[72.0; 79.6]	1,453	684	[64.4; 72.1]

Table 30: Membership of citizen movements and economic associations – by study location

		Kaffrine			Kaolack			Louga			Pikine		
		N	%	[95%CI]	N	%	[95%CI]	N	%	[95%CI]	N	%	[95%CI]
Member of a citizen movement	Yes	423	17.6	[14.3; 21.6]	221	39.0	[36.7; 41.4]	365	35.6	[27.9; 44.1]	185	25.6	[22.0; 29.7]
	No	1,977	82.4	[78.4; 85.8]	346	61.0	[58.7; 63.4]	660	64.4	[55.9; 72.1]	537	74.4	[70.3; 78.0]
Member of an economic association	Yes	521	21.8	[17.1; 27.4]	177	31.2	[28.4; 34.0]	420	40.9	[36.2; 45.9]	174	24.1	[20.4; 28.2]
	No	1,872	78.2	[72.7; 82.9]	391	68.8	[66.0; 71.6]	606	59.1	[54.1; 63.8]	548	75.9	[71.8; 79.6]

Political participation: exploring interactions

Table 31: Key documents – interaction tests exploring the interactions between sex and disability and between youth and disability – p-value of Rao-Scott likelihood ratio test

Interaction tested	Birth certificate	ID card	Voter registration card	Registered to vote
M1[2]: sex/disability	0.28	0.13	0.11	0.08
M2: youth/disability	0.17	0.11	0.07	0.09

Table 32: Political participation – interaction tests exploring interactions between sex and disability and between youth and disability – p-value of Rao-Scott likelihood ratio test

Interaction tested	Has voted	Engaged in political debate	Member of an economic association	Participated in/observed a local council session	Participated in/observed the neighbourhood's local or religious committee	Member of a political party	Local representative/candidate of a political party	Member of a citizen movement
M1: sex/disability	0.43	**0.01**	0.84	0.18	0.40	0.71	0.16	0.61
M2: youth/disability	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01

[2] M1 corresponds to a logistic regression model using the dependent variable indicated in the column and the following independent variables: age, sex, education, location, disability, sex/disability

M2 corresponds to a logistic regression model using the dependent variable indicated in the column and the following independent variables: youth, sex, education, location, disability, youth/disability.

Table 33: Political participation – relationship with disability within the "young adults" and "older adult" subgroups – results of logistic regressions adjusted for age, sex, location of the study and education level

	Young adults (18–35 years old)	Older adults (36 years and older)
Has voted	0.61 [0.33; 1.14]	0.49 [0.35; 0.67]
Engaged in political debate	1.44 [0.99; 2.09]	1.14 [0.86; 1.50]
Member of an economic association	1.07 [0.67; 1.72]	0.79 [0.59; 1.07]
Participated in/observed a local council session	2.09 [1.29; 3.38]	1.61 [1.00; 2.58]
Participated in/observed the neighbourhood's local or religious committee	2.06 [1.37; 3.10]	1.29 [0.81; 2.04]
Member of a political party	1.44 [0.74; 2.82]	1.22 [0.81; 1.84]
Local representative/candidate of a political party	1.83 [0.70; 4.79]	1.57 [0.94; 2.61]
Member of a citizen movement	0.68 [0.40; 1.14]	1.00 [0.69; 1.47]

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