



# RiDC Consumer Panel

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[www.ridc.org.uk/our-consumer-panel](http://www.ridc.org.uk/our-consumer-panel)

The RiDC logo consists of the letters 'RiDC' in a bold, orange, sans-serif font, centered within a white square background.

[Meet Bev, a RiDC panel member](#)

Company Registered in England: 2669868 Registered Charity  
No: 1007726 VAT Registration No: 577 8406 92

# Who are we?

The Research Institute for Disabled Consumers (RiDC) is the leading expert in inclusive research involving disabled and older consumers.

We are an independent, national charity with over 50 years' experience in commissioned consumer research and insights in this specialist area.

We have developed a strong track record of providing unique insights and solutions to businesses, government and charities.

We are run by, and for, people with a personal experience of disability.

# Our approach

**We always start from the perspective of disabled and older consumers.**

By working with disabled and older people, listening to their needs and reflecting real lives in our research, we make sure nobody is excluded.

# Our consumer panel

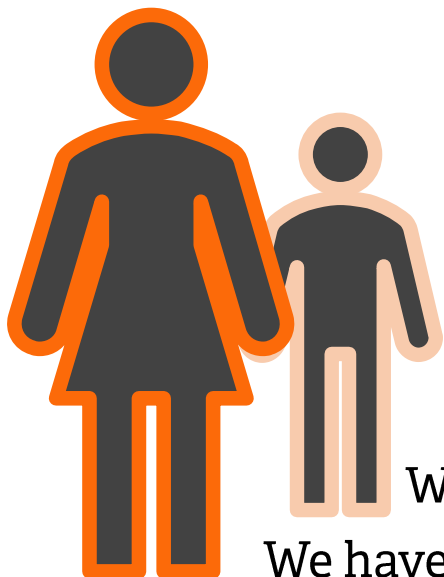
RiDC was one of the first organisations to establish a UK panel of disabled and older consumers. Our panel includes over 2,500 people and is the largest pan-disability panel in the UK.

[Click here](#) to meet some of our panel members.

# We currently have 2,503 panel members.

In terms of different types of impairment, the panel is made up as follows:

Mobility	2,060	(82%)
Vision	1,083	(43%)
Dexterity	981	(39%)
Hearing	655	(26%)
Non-visible	469	(19%)
Cognitive	434	(17%)
Communication	391	(16%)
Behavioural	271	(11%)
Getting older	261	(10%)
Learning difficulties	231	(9%)



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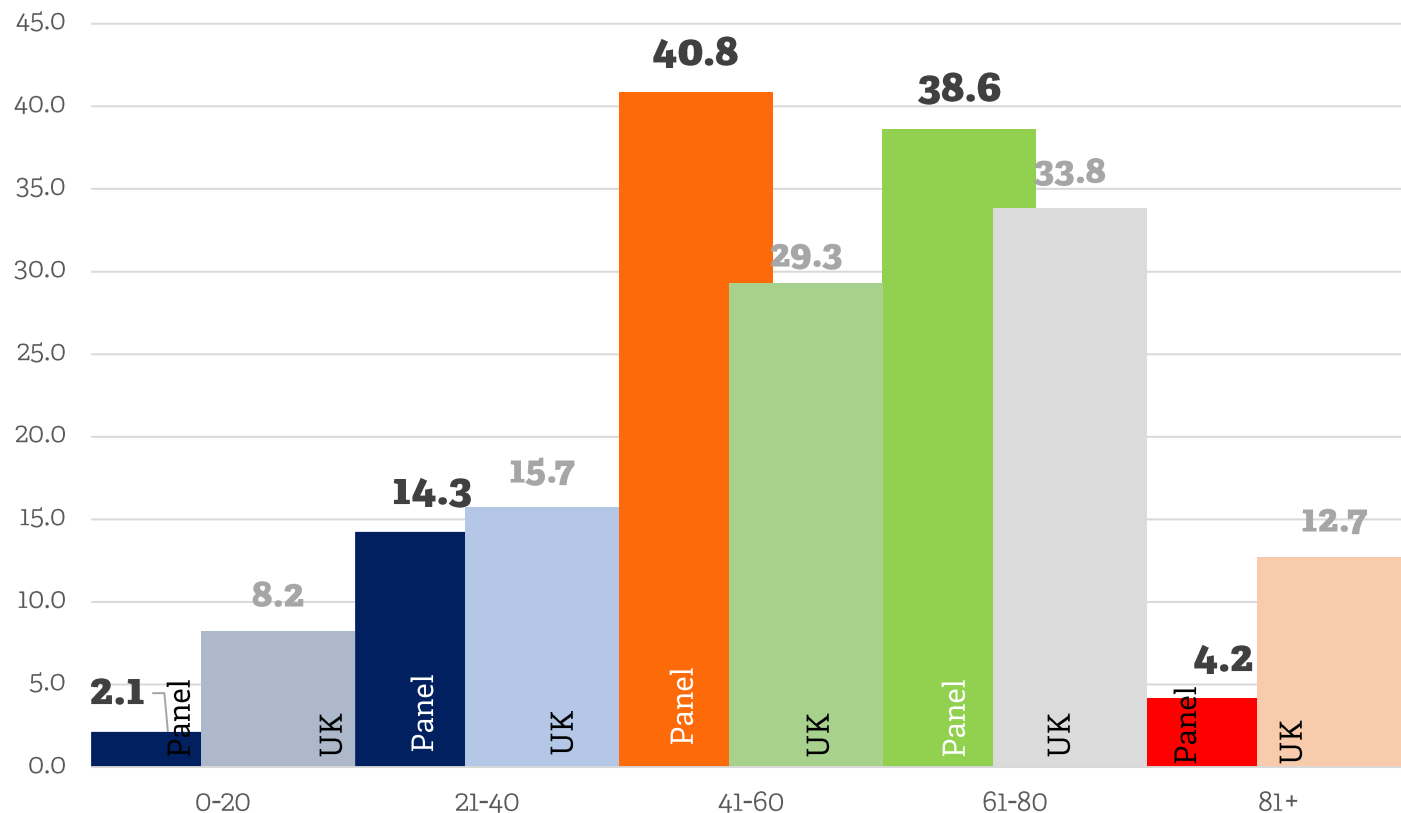
We have **1,027 male** panel members (41%; UK = 45%).

We have **1,443 female** panel members (58%; UK = 55%).

Other / prefer not to say **23** (1%)

## Profile

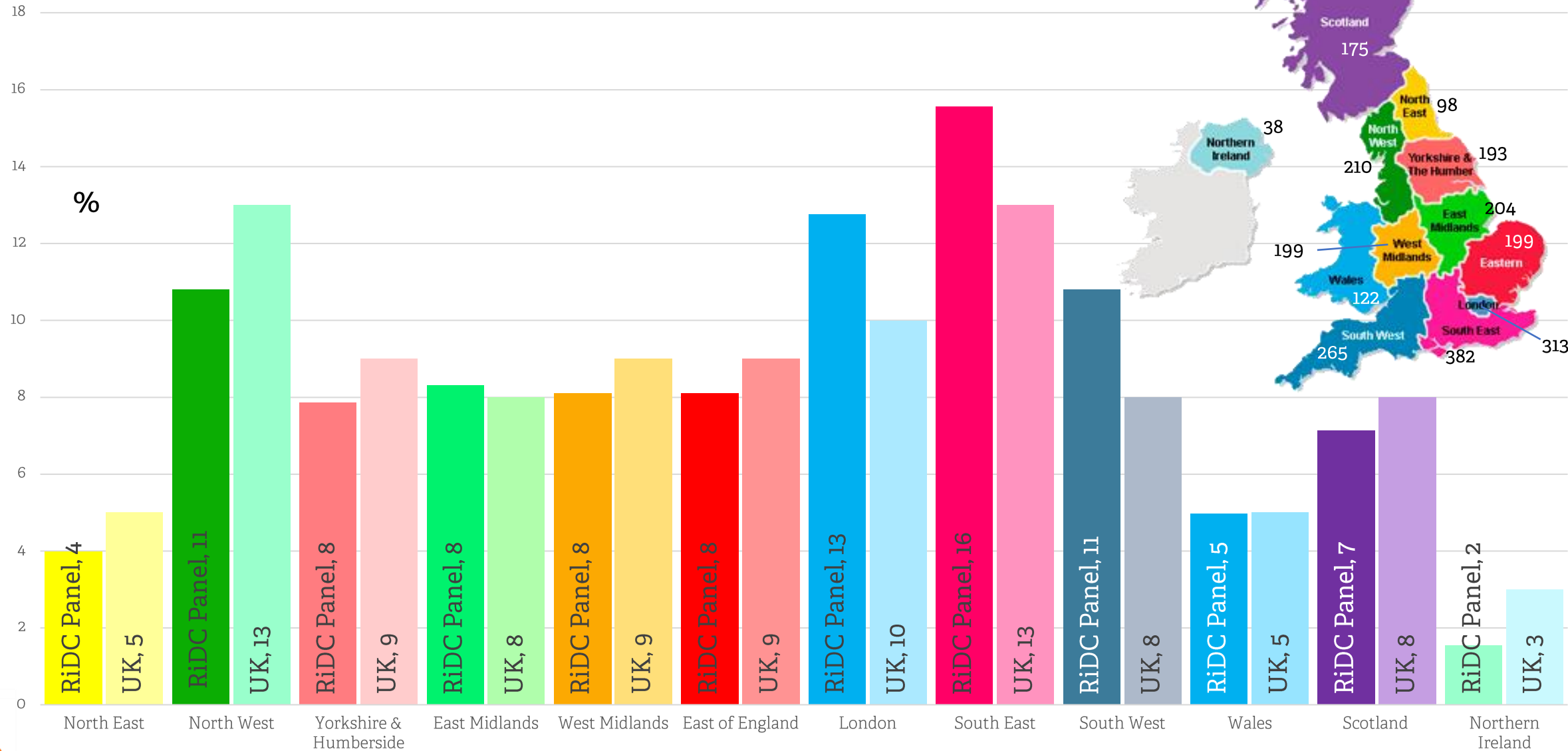
### Age (RiDC panel % compared to UK)



UK data taken from Family Resources Survey 18/19  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/family-resources-survey-financial-year-201819>

# How our panel is distributed across the UK

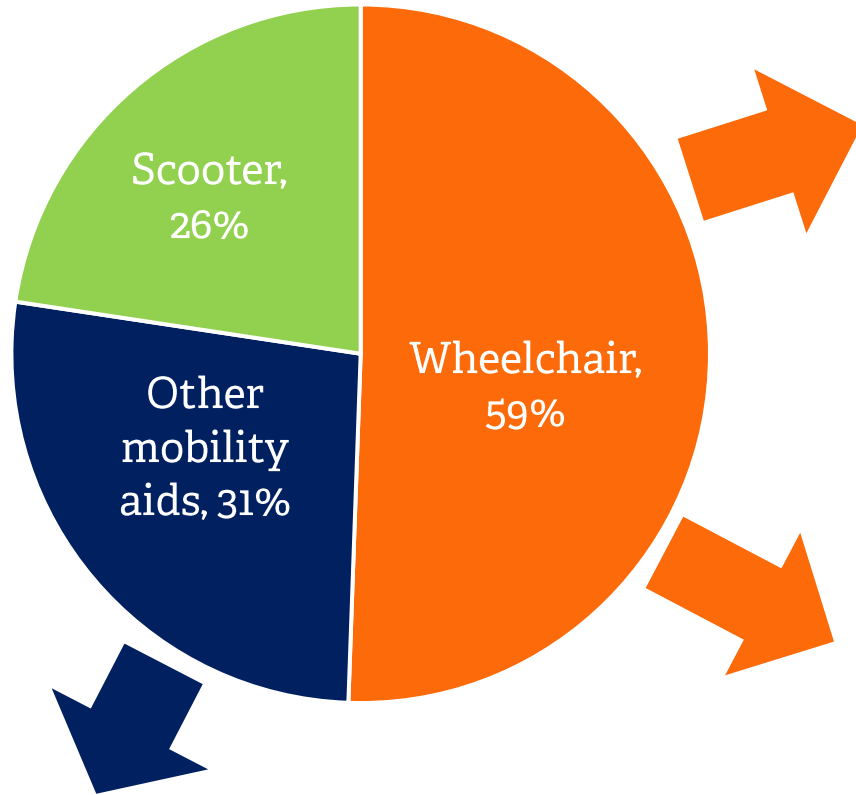
Our panel members are from all four corners of the UK.



# Mobility

There are **2,060 panel members with a mobility impairment.**

We ask panel members to provide a bit more detail on what types of mobility aids they use (if any).



## Types of wheelchairs

panel members have :

- Manual = 719
- Powered = 602
- Sports = 41

There are **531 full-time** wheelchair users on the panel. **583 are part-time** wheelchair users.

34 panel members use a **cycle** (e.g a handcycle or tricycle)

Types of **mobility aids** panel members have are:

- Crutches = 422
- Walking sticks = 753
- Assistance dogs = 51

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# Vision

**There are 1,083 panel members with a vision impairment.**

Quite a large number of this group told us they wear glasses/contact lenses (677)

## Sight aid (n=501)

- Talking book /CD = 151
- Screen reader = 161
- Symbol / long cane = 38
- Magnifying glasses = 265
- Audible/tactile measuring device = 73
- Braille equipment = 48
- Guide dog = 42
- Writing frame = 24

Blind (with residual vision) = 70

Blind (light perception) = 54

Blind (no light perception) = 45

Eyesight getting worse = 164

Partially sighted = 104

**Registered blind = 182**

**Colour blind = 104**

- Blue/yellow = 5
- Red/green = 22
- Both or other = 77



# Hearing

There are 655 panel members with a hearing impairment.

## Type of hearing impairment

- Deaf = 66
- Deaf / blind = 9
- Hard of hearing = 265
- Hearing is getting worse = 237

## Types of aids (n=582)

Hearing aid = 354  
Adaptor for TV = 57  
Flashing light/alarm/phone = 92  
Hearing dog = 18  
Amplifier for phone = 73  
Other = 73

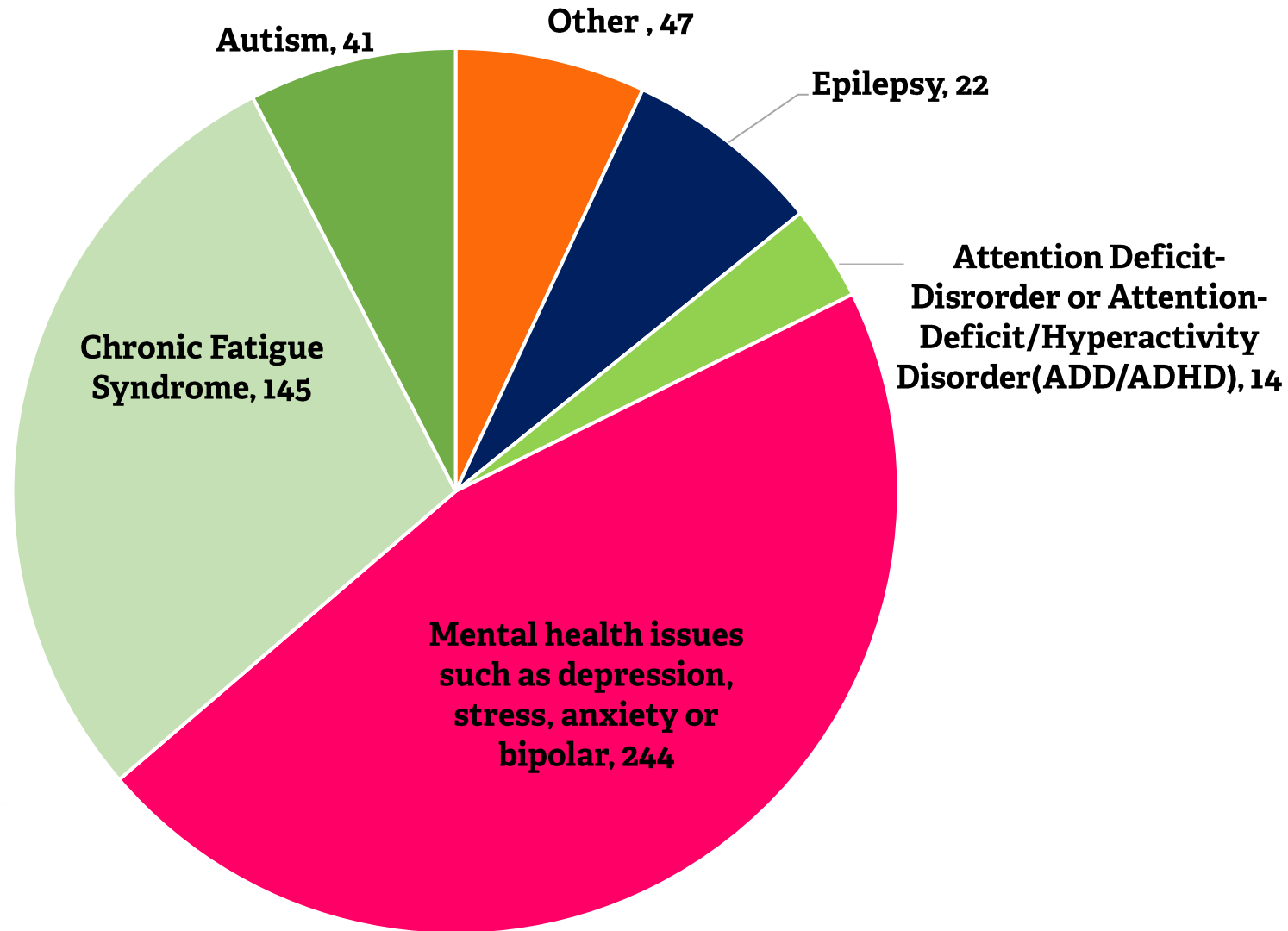
## Communication (n=186)

Finger spelling = 17  
BSL = 21  
Lip reading = 120  
Other = 82



# Non-visible

There are 469 panel members with a non-visible impairment.



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# Transport



**Bus = 890**



**Train = 879**



**Metro/underground = 354**



**Community transport = 112**



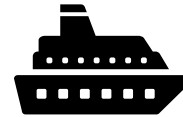
**Coach = 109**



**Plane = 180**



**Taxi = 718**



**Ferry = 57**

**1,962 panel members have access to a car**

**776 people on the panel do not use any form of public transport**



# Additional information

## Demographics

- Ethnicity
- Height
- Health condition(s)

## Technology

- Internet access
- Adaptative technology

## Research

- Research preferences (i.e. mystery shopping, surveys, workshops, etc)
- Distance willing to travel
- Method of contact

## Home

- Type
- Accessibility
- Adaptations
- Assistive furniture
- Bathroom features

