Mapping Event
Impact Report

Executive Summary

On October 6th 2023, Enable Ireland, Access Earth, and Microsoft Ireland collaboratively conducted a mapping event, aimed at collecting essential accessibility data for businesses and notable locations within the greater Dublin area. This critical information was recorded via the Access Earth application by dedicated volunteers and service owners from Microsoft and Enable Ireland, with support from the Access Earth team.

This report provides an overview of the findings and outcomes derived from the event. It emphasizes the quantifiable impact of the initiative in enhancing access to vital data required by individuals with accessibility considerations when engaging within the built environment.

A video of the event can be found by following this link: https://youtu.be/KRxFVcmLvHs

Image Description: Members of Microsoft Give Group and Enable Ireland during mapping event on October 6th 2023

General Overview

Data collected via the Access Earth application is organised into seven distinct categories, namely: Sleep, Eat, Shop, Sport, Experience, Medical, and Other. Each of these categories can be evaluated based on 23 specific criteria that can influence an individual's experience at the given venue. A comprehensive list of these criteria can be found in the **'Places meeting criteria Data'** section of this report. In the subsequent sections, we will provide a detailed analysis of the primary findings derived from data accumulated by attendees and volunteers during the Mapping event held on October 6th.
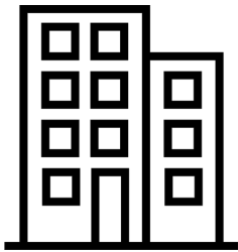
152	57	51
Total Places Rated	**Places to Shop**	**Places to Eat**

Image Description: Members of Microsoft Give Group and Enable Ireland during mapping event.

Step-free Entrance: 75.7% (115 Occurrences)

With 115 out of 152 locations featuring a step-free entrance, this criteria accounted for approximately 75.7% of the total number of places rated. This high prevalence indicates a strong focus on barrier-free access to buildings and spaces in the greater Dublin area.

Wide Doors: 65.8% (100 Occurrences)

Wide doors were identified in 100 of the 152 locations, accounting for approximately 65.8% of the total. These are particularly crucial for individuals using wheelchairs or other mobility aids, and their high occurrence shows a strong commitment to inclusivity.


Image Description: Volunteers on the street deciding which business to rate next for the mapping event.

Accessible Bathrooms:

- **Places Providing Information**: 25
    - **All meet the accessibility criteria**
- **Places Not Providing Information**: 127 (83.6%)
    - **Primarily shops and places to eat**

*Places Not Providing Information includes locations that do not have accessible bathrooms as well as locations where no information about their bathrooms are available.

During the mapping event, 51 places to eat were recorded, however only 12 of them offered facilities with accessible bathrooms, highlighting a significant area for potential improvement.
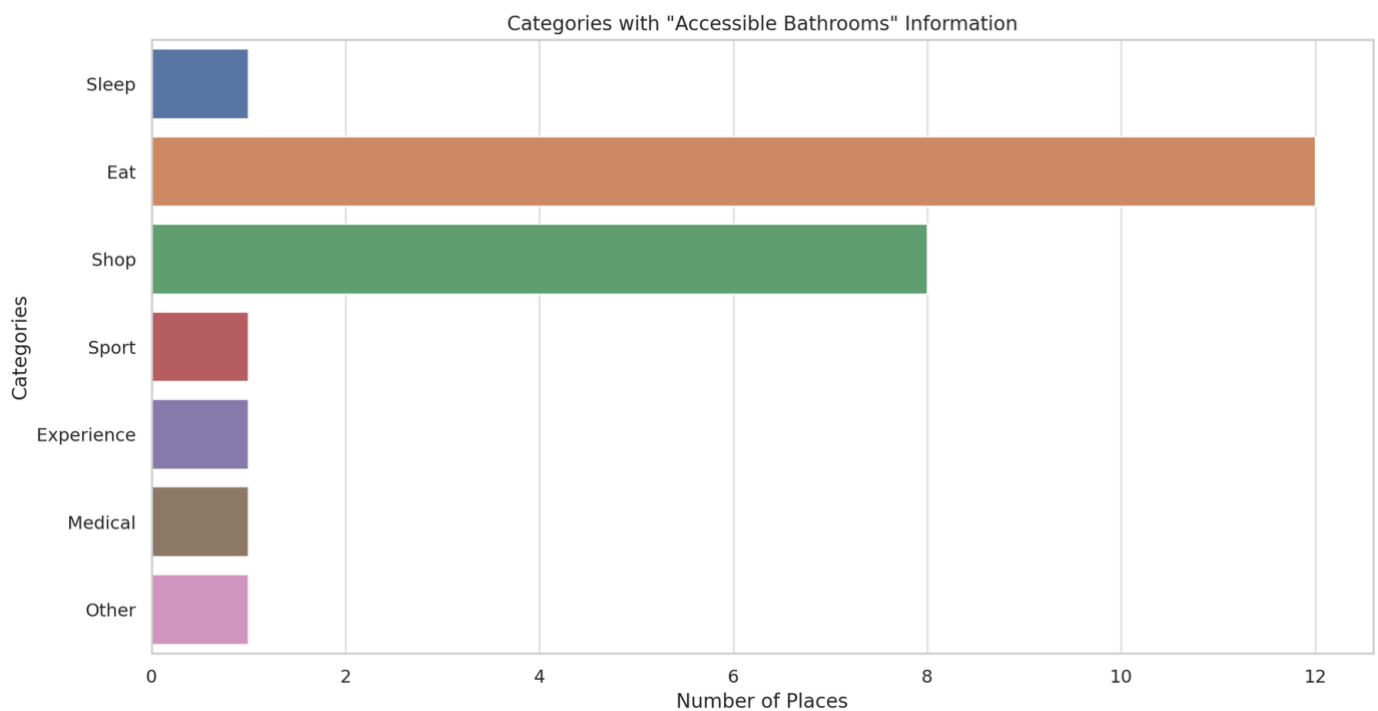
Image Description: Graph Highlighting the 25 rated establishments with accessible bathrooms by category

Key Insights

1. **High Focus on Shop and Eat Categories**: A significant portion of the places in the dataset are either shops (37.5%) or places to eat (33.6%). This highlights the sectors where accessibility could potentially have the most impact.

2. **Physical Accessibility is Prevalent**: About 76% of places meet the criteria for a step-free entrance, and 66% have wide doors. However, less than 40% have an accessible interior. This suggests room for improvement in making places more navigable.

3. **Sensory and Covid-Related Measures are Less Common**: Less than 35% of places meet the criteria for adequate lighting, and only about 5% meet the surface sanitisation criteria for COVID-19. The COVID results are unsurprising due to the time since the start of the pandemic.

4. **Diverse Criteria Types but Skewed Towards Physical**: While the criteria are diverse, they are heavily skewed towards physical accessibility (65.7%). Sensory criteria, though important, make up less than 30%. It is important to note that the profile of the mapping team was weighted towards people who experience physical accessibility challenges.


Image Description: Service Owner and volunteer

This summarised report offers an insightful look into the current state of accessibility across different types of places. It highlights both the strides made in making places more accessible and the gaps that still need to be filled.
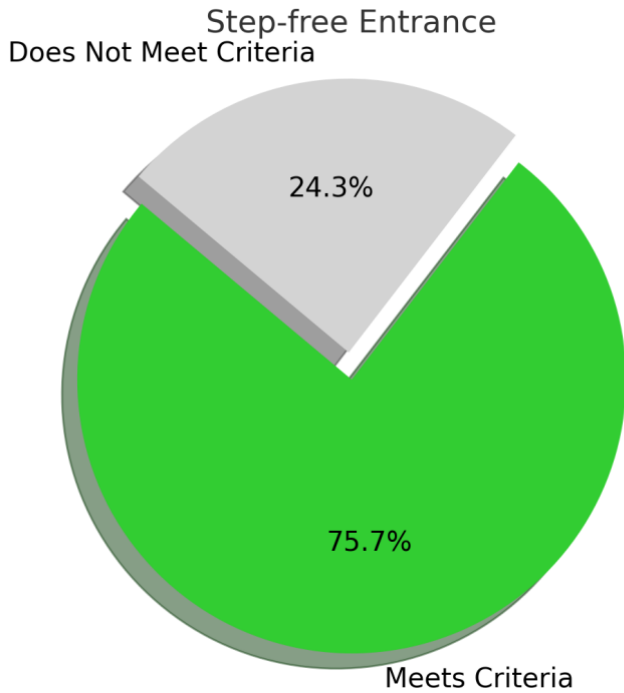
General Statistics From Categories

| Category	Count
Shop	57
Eat	51
Other	17
Medical	14
Experience	5
Civic	4
Sport	2
Sleep	1
Transport	1
Total	**152**
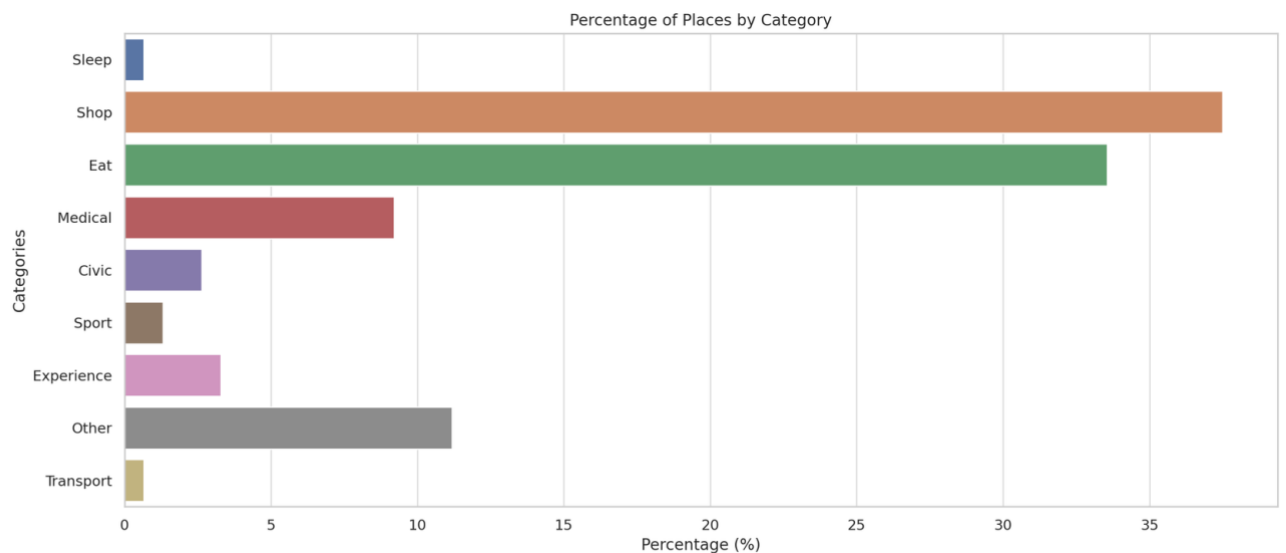
Image Description: Graph displaying percentage of places on the X axis by category type.on the Y axis. Places to Shop and Eat are most prevalent while Sport, Transport and Sleep are least prevalent.
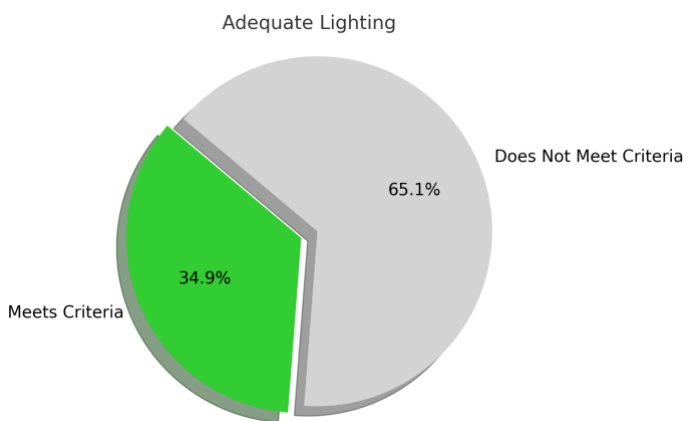
Places Meeting Specific Criteria Data

Step-free Entrance

Does Not Meet Criteria

24.3%

75.7%

Meets Criteria

Wide Doors

Does Not Meet Criteria

34.2%

65.8%

Meets Criteria

Image Descriptions: Pie Charts outlining the percentage of rated locations with 75.7% have Step-Free Entrances while 24.3% do not.
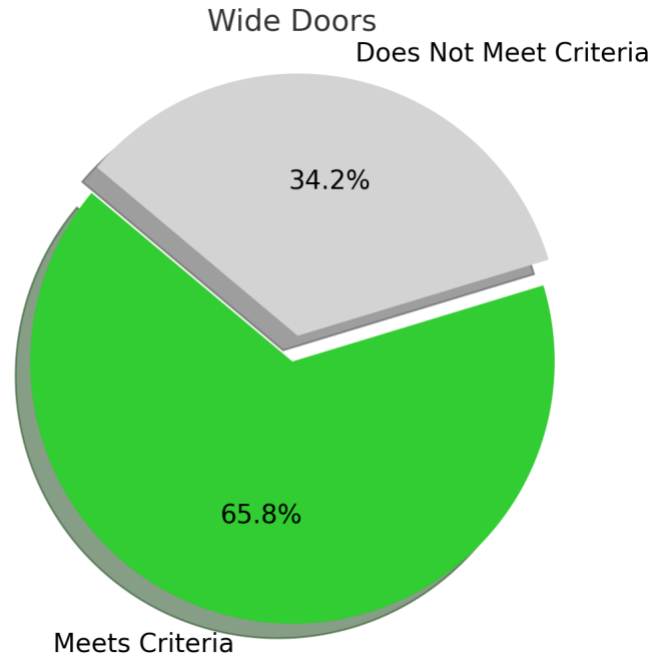
Image Descriptions: Pie Charts outlining that of the rated locations with Wide Doors 65.8% have them while 34.2% do not.

Adequate Lighting

Does Not Meet Criteria

65.1%

34.9%

Meets Criteria

Accessible Interior

Does Not Meet Criteria

60.5%

39.5%

Meets Criteria

Image Descriptions: Pie Charts outlining that of the of rated locations 34.9% do have Adequate Lighting while 65.1% do not.
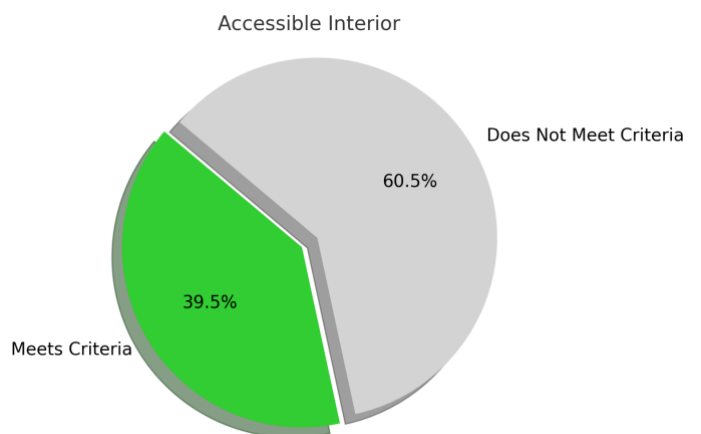
Image Descriptions: Pie Charts outlining that of the rated locations 39.5% have Accessible Interiors while 60.5% do not.

Criteria	Occurrence
Step-free Entrance	115
Wide Doors	100
Accessible Interior	60
Adequate Lighting	53
Accessible Parking	35
Accessible Bathrooms	25
Soft Lighting	26
Service Animal Friendly	21
Space Between Tables	22
Surfaces Sanitised	8
Large Print Menus	8
Digital Menus	8
Collection Service	7
Quiet Areas	10
Limited Occupancy	5
Adult Changing Places	2
Quiet Hours	3
Sheltered Waiting Areas	1
Accessible Waiting Areas	1
Requires Advance Notice	1
Tactile Pavement	1
Assistance Staff Available	1
Home Delivery Service	1

Percentage of Places Meeting Specific Criteria
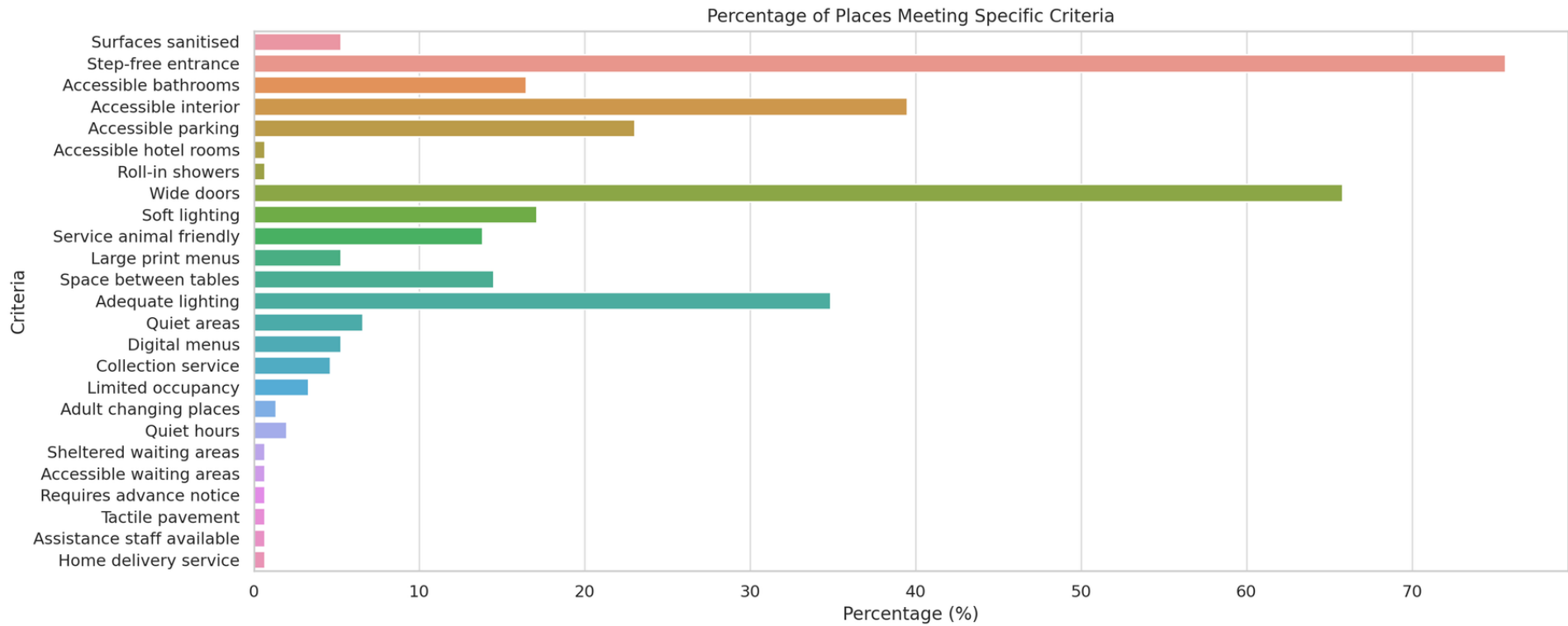
Image Description: A vertical bar chart highlighting Number of places on the x axis that various criteria recorded against those places on the Y axis.

The general trend is that step free entrance and wide doors are the most prevalent while Sensory and COVID-19 criteria are not as widely reported

Potential Actions

- **Enable Ireland service** owners and staff could consider raising the accessibility barriers with premises on an individual basis, as part of their Social Inclusion and Advocacy programmes.

- Share details of the event via social media and to mark International Day of People With Disabilities 2023

- Consider a further mapping event involving Enable Ireland staff and partner agencies

- Enhance accessibility of Access Earth app based on feedback from participants

Image Descriptions: Service Owner and volunteer exiting garden section of a store.

Testimonials & Messages of thanks

Image Descriptions: Microsoft volunteers Enable Ireland service owners and staff

"The day was a really powerful experience for all involved, it created awareness of the environmental challenges that people face every day. The energy and enthusiasm of the teams was really high and this really helped to promote that access is a human right and how by taking a minute out of your time you can log into the access earth APP and create awareness for people who need it."
National Virtual Service Coordinator

"Access Earth, Microsoft, and Enable Ireland united for an impactful Accessible Mapping Day. Over 20 teams mapped 200+ locations around Dublin, enhancing accessibility awareness. Enable Ireland staff, service owners, and Microsoft volunteers collaborated seamlessly, using the Access Earth app. This event, marked by teamwork and community spirit, aims to inspire nationwide replication, championed by our National Virtual Service. The Access Earth team played a pivotal role in supporting this initiative."
Virtual Service Technical Support

"It was an excellent day with up to at least 10 teams going out and about with Service Owners and up to about 20 volunteers (two in each team)
We mapped and used the Access Earth App to access accessibility of at least 50 different local shops / cafes/ public building / local amenities.
Lunch together and desserts afterwards (supplied by Microsoft) was much appreciated by all
All positive feedback from all involved."
Adult Service Coordinator

"Thank you very much for all your assistance and planning to make the day using Access Earth Mapping such a wonderful event for the service owners & Staff in Crumlin Service. We really appreciate all your help and ongoing support.

A Big thank you to Tara & Owen for the beautiful merchandise they provided to all in Crumlin, not to forget the cupcakes which were enjoyed by all.

Thank you to all the Microsoft team who joined us for lunch and music.

Image Descriptions: Cupcakes with give logo and multicoloured hearts supplied for the event by the give team.

The excitement and feedback from service owners & staff has been amazing, all have gone home with big smiles ! !

"Great day, great chat with the volunteers.
We logged in a lot of premises."
Virtual Service Support Worker

If you could pass on our thanks to the Microsoft Team & Volunteers.

Once again from all at Crumlin Thank you to all involved."
Adult Service Coordinator