



Exploring the Development of Disability Entrepreneurship Research Through Bibliometric Analysis

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KEYWORDS

*Bibliometric Analysis,
Disability
Entrepreneurship,
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Rehabilitation, Social
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ABSTRACT

This study provides a systematic exploration of the intellectual landscape, publication patterns, and thematic development in the field of disability entrepreneurship. Although scholarly attention toward this area has grown, existing research remains dispersed and lacks an integrated synthesis. To address this gap, the study adopts a hybrid approach combining systematic literature review and bibliometric analysis, examining 276 peer-reviewed publications produced between 1959 and 2025. Data preprocessing and standardization were conducted using OpenRefine, biblioMagika, and Biblioshiny to enhance reliability and consistency. The analytical procedures encompass performance analysis and science mapping techniques, including citation analysis, co-authorship network analysis, and keyword co-occurrence mapping. The results reveal a significant increase in research productivity and impact after 2015, with the United States emerging as a leading contributor. Key research themes identified include social inclusion, rehabilitation, and inclusive entrepreneurship, whereas areas such as technological enablers and policy-related support mechanisms remain insufficiently explored. Despite limitations associated with the use of a single database and a title-restricted search strategy, this study contributes a comprehensive overview that serves as a reference point for scholars and policymakers by identifying influential studies, research gaps, and future research avenues. As one of the earliest comprehensive bibliometric mappings in this field, it offers essential insights to advance both academic inquiry and inclusive policy formulation.....

1. INTRODUCTION

Growing scholarly and public discourse has drawn attention to the systemic exclusion of persons with disabilities from mainstream economic participation, particularly within the domain of entrepreneurship. Conventional organizational structures frequently present insurmountable barriers for individuals with disabilities, including persistent socio-economic, systemic, attitudinal, and environmental obstacles that limit their integration into formal employment settings (Kulkarni & Lengnick-Hall, 2014). In this context, entrepreneurship has gained recognition as a meaningful pathway toward economic self-sufficiency and broader social inclusion. Kašperová (2021) characterizes disabled entrepreneurs as individuals with long-term impairments or health conditions who engage in self-employment or business ownership.

Notwithstanding the distinctive character of disability entrepreneurship as a phenomenon, its scholarly examination remains limited and unevenly distributed across disciplines. Historically situated at the confluence of disability studies, entrepreneurship research, and social inclusion discourse, disability entrepreneurship has frequently been marginalized

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within each of these fields rather than treated as a substantive area of inquiry. Recent years have witnessed a discernible shift, with a growing body of theoretical and empirical scholarship signaling the gradual consolidation of this topic into a more coherent research domain (Maritz & Laferriere, 2016). Nevertheless, no systematic effort has yet been undertaken to map the intellectual architecture of this literature, trace the development of its thematic concerns or identify the foundational works that have shaped its trajectory.

The present study responds to this gap through a bibliometric analysis of the disability entrepreneurship literature. Bibliometric methodologies offer a robust analytical framework for detecting patterns in academic output, evaluating the contributions of prolific scholars and institutions, and charting the thematic evolution of an emerging field over time (Donthu et al., 2021). By applying these methods, this study seeks to impose conceptual order on a field that is both practically significant and academically underdeveloped, with the broader aim of guiding future research directions, informing policy development and strengthening practice

PROBLEM STATEMENTS

Although disability entrepreneurship is gaining recognition as a vital area of inquiry, existing literature is dispersed across multiple disciplines, including disability studies, entrepreneurship, and social policy (Kitching, 2014; Pagán, 2020). This fragmentation makes it difficult to assess the field's intellectual structure, influential works, and emerging trends. Additionally, while bibliometric analyses have been widely used to map research trends in entrepreneurship (Goyal & Kumar, 2021), few studies have systematically examined the field of disability entrepreneurship. This gap limits policymakers, researchers, and practitioners in developing evidence-based strategies to support entrepreneurs with disabilities.

Objectives of the paper

This study employs a bibliometric analysis to systematically examine the growth and structure of research on disability entrepreneurship. Specifically, the paper aims to:

Identify the key trends in disability entrepreneurship research publications, citations, and leading researchers.

Map the intellectual structure of the field by analyzing co-citation networks and keyword co-occurrences.

Explore new themes and gaps to help future research and policy changes.

Research questions

To achieve these objectives, the study addresses the following research questions:

How has disability entrepreneurship research evolved in terms of publication trends, influential journals, and geographic distribution?

What is the intellectual structure of disability entrepreneurship research as revealed by co-citation and keyword co-occurrence analyses?

What underexplored areas in disability entrepreneurship research require further scholarly attention?

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

A systematic literature review enables researchers to track the evolution of a concept over time, providing insights into how constructs such as entrepreneurship and disability have developed in scholarly discourse and practice (Zoller and Muldoon, 2020). Over the past three decades, interest in inclusive and socially oriented entrepreneurship, particularly among marginalized groups such as individuals with disabilities, has steadily increased. This study adopts an integrative approach, combining systematic literature reviews and bibliometric analyses to examine the intellectual structure, thematic trends, and emerging research fronts in the field of entrepreneurship among people with disabilities. A systematic literature review serves as a cornerstone of the scientific process by taking stock of existing knowledge, generating new insights, formulating novel research questions (Creswell and Poth, 2016), and making meaningful contributions to the advancement of a research domain (Tranfield et al., 2003). It also benefits from methodological transparency, as it is guided by clearly defined and replicable procedures (Lim and Weissmann, 2023).

Nevertheless, due to its qualitative and interpretive nature, the systematic literature review is susceptible to interpretation bias (MacCoun, 1998), particularly in fields where conceptual boundaries are fluid and complex. This bias, however, can be minimized through procedural rigor, transparency, and clarity in the review process (Boubaker et al., 2023). In contrast,



the quantitative orientation of bibliometrics provides a complementary perspective that helps mitigate such bias by offering objective measurements of scholarly output, influence, and network relationships (Boubaker et al., 2023). As such, the use of bibliometric techniques has proven essential for generating a comprehensive, data-driven understanding of the evolving research landscape on entrepreneurship and disability. This hybrid review model, which integrates systematic and bibliometric methods, has gained wide recognition and adoption in the academic community for its robustness and analytical depth (Boubaker et al., 2023; Sureka et al., 2022; Tomar et al., 2021).

The data for this review were extracted following Tranfield et al.'s (2003) systematic approach, ensuring legitimacy, transparency, and reproducibility throughout the process. One of the central challenges in conducting a rigorous literature review lies in identifying keywords that effectively retrieve relevant scholarly work from scientific databases (Aveyard, 2014). To address this, the researchers examined prior review articles within the broader fields of entrepreneurship and inclusive entrepreneurship (Aparicio et al., 2019; Fellnhofner, 2019; Naia et al., 2015; Viebig, 2022) to identify established keyword structures and search strategies.

For this study, the keywords were designed to reflect the intersectional focus on *entrepreneurship* and *disability*. We centred our search around the core terms “entrepreneurship” and “disability,” incorporating relevant synonyms and variants for both constructs. The final Boolean search string used in the title field was:

(“entrepreneur” OR “entrepreneurs” OR “entrepreneurship” OR “business” OR “businesses”) AND (“disable” OR “disabled” OR “disability” OR “disabilities”)

This combination enabled the comprehensive retrieval of literature that directly addressed both themes within article titles, thereby enhancing topical specificity.

The initial search was conducted using the Scopus database, given its wide coverage of peer-reviewed academic literature. This search yielded a total of 276 documents. To ensure the quality and scholarly rigor of the review, the dataset was refined by excluding non-peer-reviewed documents, such as editorials, notes, and letters, while retaining only articles, reviews, book chapters, and conference papers. Unlike prior studies that focused narrowly on disciplinary silos, this review imposed no subject area restrictions, allowing for an inclusive and interdisciplinary exploration of the topic. The broad scope reflects the multifaceted nature of entrepreneurship and disability research, which spans fields such as business, social sciences, education, health, and public policy.

Figure 1 provides a detailed overview of the data retrieval and screening process, outlining each stage from initial identification to final inclusion in the bibliometric analysis.

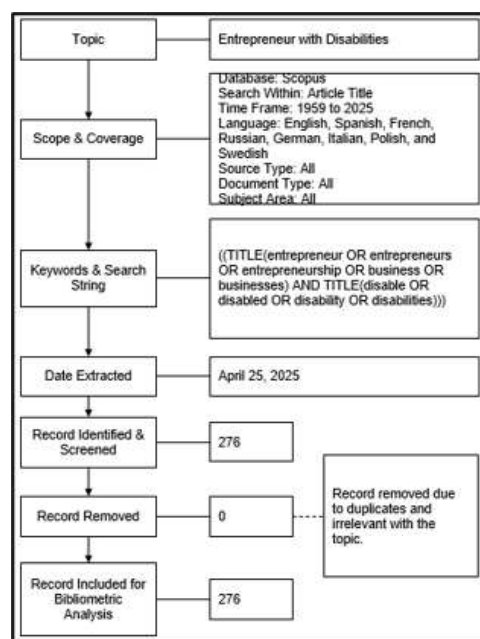


Figure 1: Flow Diagram of Search Strategy

Source: Punj et al. (2021), Moher et al. (2009)

This structured approach adheres to established bibliometric and systematic review protocols, ensuring transparency, reproducibility, and methodological rigor in the identification and screening of relevant literature. The process begins with the identification of the topic, which in this study focuses specifically on *entrepreneurs with disabilities*. This topic defines the conceptual boundaries of the analysis and informs the subsequent stages of the literature search and screening.

The scope and coverage of the data collection are outlined in the second stage. The literature was sourced exclusively from the Scopus database, chosen for its comprehensive indexing of peer-reviewed journals and interdisciplinary breadth. Consequently, the search was conducted within the article title field to maximize precision and thematic relevance. The time frame spans from 1959 to 2025, encompassing over six decades of research activity. To enhance inclusivity and mitigate language bias, the search included articles written in eight languages: English, Spanish, French, Russian, German, Italian, Polish, and Swedish. No restrictions were applied to source type, document type, or subject area, ensuring a wide-ranging dataset across disciplines.

The third stage details the keywords and search string used to retrieve the relevant publications using “The Boolean search string” as detailed below:

((TITLE(entrepreneur OR entrepreneurs OR entrepreneurship OR business OR businesses) AND TITLE(disable OR disabled OR disability OR disabilities)))

The search was constructed to capture publications explicitly addressing both entrepreneurship and disability in their titles, ensuring topical precision. The date of data extraction is recorded as April 25, 2025, indicating the point at which the dataset was finalized for analysis.

In the subsequent step, 276 records were identified and screened based on title-level relevance. These records were assessed for duplication and topical alignment. Interestingly, no records were removed at this stage, as no duplicates or irrelevant entries were found. This outcome suggests a well-targeted search strategy that produced a clean and thematically consistent dataset.

Finally, a total of 276 records were retained and included in the bibliometric analysis. These records form the empirical foundation for the performance and science mapping analyses conducted in the subsequent phases of the study.

Historical Development

Research on disability entrepreneurship has evolved significantly over the past two decades, shifting from a peripheral topic to a field of increasing recognition. Early discussions, appearing around the late 1990s and early 2000s, often framed entrepreneurship as a form of supported employment or rehabilitation, as seen in the pioneering works of Walk (1999) and Green (2000). These initial studies laid the foundation for understanding entrepreneurship as a means of social and economic empowerment for people with disabilities.

A major turning point came in the 2010s, when social entrepreneurship frameworks began to influence the field. Scholars highlighted how entrepreneurship could enable individuals with disabilities to overcome systemic barriers to employment, achieve economic independence, and contribute to community development. This shift aligned with global policy movements, particularly the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which emphasize inclusion and equal economic opportunities.

More recently, the field has incorporated a range of new theoretical perspectives, including institutional theory and social capital theory, to better understand the contexts and networks that support entrepreneurial activities among individuals with disabilities. Methodologically, there has been a move from purely qualitative case studies to more diverse approaches, including mixed-method designs and bibliometric analyses. Advances in data analysis tools, such as network mapping and text mining, have helped clarify emerging themes and key contributors.

Additionally, recent studies have focused on the role of technology and digital innovation in enabling entrepreneurship, as well as the importance of intersectionality in shaping experiences. Together, these developments signal a maturing field that addresses economic participation and promotes broader social inclusion and policy change.

3. RECENT DEVELOPMENT

Recent years have seen disability entrepreneurship research move in exciting new directions. Scholars are increasingly studying how digital tools, assistive technologies, and online platforms help people with disabilities start and grow businesses, breaking down traditional barriers and opening new markets. This shift has also led to increased research on entrepreneurship in diverse settings, including healthcare, education, and rural communities.

New theories have emerged to explain these changes. Models such as the Extended Technology Acceptance Model and the Unified Theory of Acceptance and Use of Technology are now utilized to understand how individuals with disabilities adopt new technologies and integrate them into their work. These perspectives are often combined with social and institutional theories to better capture the social and environmental factors that shape entrepreneurial success.

Methodologically, the field is moving beyond simple case studies. Increasingly, researchers are employing mixed methods, combining interviews and surveys with advanced techniques such as machine learning and text analysis to uncover new patterns and trends. Some are even using experiments to test what support programs work best.

These developments point toward a future where research is more data-driven, inclusive, and practical. By adopting these new approaches, scholars can offer stronger guidance for policy and practice, helping create more accessible and supportive environments for entrepreneurs with disabilities worldwide.

Studies on Bibliometric Analysis

This study employs a bibliometric approach to systematically examine the scholarly literature on entrepreneurship involving individuals with disabilities. Bibliometric analysis enables the quantitative assessment of publication trends, intellectual structures, and emerging thematic areas within a defined body of academic literature. The methodological framework employed in this study aligns with established protocols for systematic reviews and bibliometric research, as articulated by Punj et al. (2021) and Moher et al. (2009).

Search Strategy

To identify and retrieve relevant literature for the bibliometric analysis, a systematic and transparent search strategy was employed. The Scopus database was selected as the primary data source due to its extensive coverage of peer-reviewed literature across disciplines, its robust citation indexing, and its compatibility with bibliometric tools. Noe that Scopus is widely recognized for its comprehensive scope and reliability in bibliometric research, making it an appropriate choice for this study.

The search was deliberately confined to the article title field in order to enhance the precision of the dataset. Restricting the search to titles reduces the likelihood of retrieving tangentially related publications that mention the terms of interest only peripherally, such as in keywords or abstracts. This methodological choice aligns with established bibliometric protocols, ensuring that the resulting corpus is highly relevant to the research topic.

The search query was constructed using Boolean logic to capture publications addressing both entrepreneurship and disability. Specifically, the following expression was used:

((TITLE(entrepreneur OR entrepreneurs OR entrepreneurship OR business OR businesses)) AND TITLE (disable OR disabled OR disability OR disabilities)).

This formulation allows for the inclusion of various terminological representations of both constructs, thereby ensuring conceptual inclusivity while maintaining focus.

The temporal coverage of the search spanned from 1959 to 2025, capturing more than six decades of scholarly output. This range was selected to provide both historical depth and contemporary relevance, enabling the identification of longitudinal trends, seminal works, and emerging research themes. No restrictions were applied to source type, document type, or subject area, allowing for a multidisciplinary perspective on the phenomenon of entrepreneurship among individuals with disabilities.

The search was further refined by limiting the dataset to publications in the following languages: English, Spanish, French, Russian, German, Italian, Polish, and Swedish. These languages were selected to capture a wide range of regional scholarship while maintaining feasibility for content interpretation and analysis.

The literature search and data extraction were conducted on April 25, 2025. At this stage, a total of 276 records were retrieved. A manual screening was performed to eliminate duplicates and non-relevant titles. However, all retrieved records were deemed relevant, and no entries were excluded. The final dataset, comprising 276 records, serves as the basis for the

bibliometric analysis presented in the subsequent sections.

Data Collection

The dataset's temporal coverage spans from 1959 to 2025, capturing both foundational and contemporary developments in the field of entrepreneurship and disability. This extended timeframe enables the identification of both early academic contributions and recent trends, facilitating a longitudinal perspective on the evolution of research in this domain. To promote linguistic inclusivity and mitigate language bias, the search strategy incorporated articles published in English, Spanish, French, Russian, German, Italian, Polish, and Swedish. Furthermore, no restrictions were imposed on source type, document type, or subject area. This inclusive approach was intentionally adopted to ensure a multidisciplinary and comprehensive dataset encompassing diverse academic perspectives.

The literature search and data extraction were conducted on April 25, 2025. An initial 276 records were identified through the application of a structured search query on the Scopus database. The retrieved records were then subjected to a manual screening process aimed at ensuring thematic relevance and eliminating duplication. Each entry was reviewed based on its title to confirm that it explicitly addressed the intersection of entrepreneurship and disability. Interestingly, no duplicate or irrelevant records were identified; therefore, the entire corpus of 276 articles was retained for subsequent bibliometric analysis.

Despite the methodological rigor applied during the data collection process, particular challenges emerged, particularly during the manual cleaning and screening stage. One significant issue was the time-intensive nature of reviewing and verifying individual records to ensure consistency, particularly when dealing with linguistic variations and minor differences in terminology. Although this step is crucial for ensuring the precision and coherence of the dataset, it requires considerable human effort and attention to detail, especially when cross-checking metadata for potential inconsistencies in author names, institutional affiliations, or keyword formatting.

To enhance the reliability and validity of the collected data, additional verification steps were implemented during the data cleaning phase. This included the use of automated tools such as OpenRefine, biblioMagika, and Biblioshiny, which supported the harmonization of metadata fields and reduced the risk of analytical bias introduced by inconsistent data formatting. These procedures contributed to the integrity of the dataset. They provided a robust foundation for the bibliometric techniques applied in this study.

Ultimately, the curated dataset of 276 scholarly records serves as the empirical basis for the bibliometric analysis. It encompasses both performance analysis to identify the most influential authors, sources, institutions, and countries, as well as science mapping to uncover structural patterns and intellectual trends in the field of disability and entrepreneurship research.

Data Cleaning and Harmonization

To ensure the validity and reliability of the bibliometric analysis, a rigorous data cleaning and harmonization process was conducted prior to executing the main analytical procedures. This step is critical in addressing inconsistencies, redundancies, and variations in metadata that may otherwise compromise the accuracy of bibliometric indicators and network structures. Two key tools were employed for this purpose: OpenRefine (Ahmi, 2023) and biblioMagika (Ahmi, 2024), both of which are widely recognized in the bibliometric research community for their capabilities in data refinement and normalization.

OpenRefine was primarily utilized to clean and standardize keywords, particularly addressing lexical variations and semantic inconsistencies across the dataset. For example, terms referring to the same concept were unified to ensure coherence in keyword co-occurrence analysis. Variants such as *"entrepreneurship with disabilities"*, *"disabled entrepreneurs"*, *"entrepreneurs with disability"*, and *"entrepreneurship among persons with disabilities"* were harmonized under a single standardized keyword to reflect the core thematic construct. Similarly, in the context of small business research, keywords such as *"Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)"*, *"small businesses"*, and *"micro-enterprises"* were consolidated to ensure thematic consistency and to facilitate accurate clustering during thematic mapping and longitudinal trend analysis. Moreover, singular and plural forms, acronyms, and synonyms were systematically reconciled to avoid artificial fragmentation of research themes.

BiblioMagika was employed to standardize author names and institutional affiliations, addressing typical bibliographic inconsistencies such as variations in name abbreviations, punctuation, and institutional nomenclature. For instance, author entries such as *"J. Smith," "John Smith,"* and *"Smith, J."* were unified under a consistent author identity after cross-



referencing with their affiliations and publications. Institutional names that appeared in multiple forms, such as "Univ. of California," "University of California," and "UC Berkeley," were normalized to a standard format to ensure accuracy in author collaboration and institutional mapping analyses.

Additionally, Biblioshiny was utilized for preliminary data exploration, generating performance metrics, and creating network visualizations. Its interactive capabilities allowed for real-time inspection of data quality and patterns, enhancing the precision of subsequent cleaning steps and ensuring the robustness of the analytical framework. Biblioshiny also provided complementary analytical outputs that informed both the thematic structuring and the methodological decisions throughout the study.

The harmonization of these metadata elements enhances the interpretability and comparability of bibliometric indicators such as co-authorship networks, keyword co-occurrence, and institutional productivity. By eliminating repetitiveness and ensuring terminological consistency, the data cleaning process serves as a foundational step in reinforcing the methodological rigor of this bibliometric study.

Results

Documents Profiles

Main Information	Data
Publication Years	1959 - 2025
Total Publications	276
Citable Year	67
Number of Contributing Authors	276
Number of Cited Papers	193
Total Citations	2,242
Citation per Paper	8.12
Citation per Cited Paper	11.62
Citation per Year	33.97
Citation per Author	8.12
Author per Paper	1.00
Citation sum within h-Core	1,970
h-index	26
g-index	36
m-index	0.388
Table 1: Citation Metrics	
Source: Generated by the author(s) using biblioMagika® (Ahmi, 2024)	

Table 1 presents a detailed summary of the key citation metrics derived from the bibliometric dataset on entrepreneurship and disability, covering the publication period from 1959 to 2025. A total of 276 publications were identified and included in the analysis. These represent scholarly contributions from an equivalent number of 276 unique authors, indicating an average of 1.00 authors per paper, which suggests a predominance of individually authored works in this research domain. The temporal span of 67 citable years further reflects the longstanding, albeit sporadic, academic interest in the intersection

of entrepreneurship and disability.

Of the Total Publications (TP), 193 papers (approximately 70%) have received at least one citation, demonstrating a reasonably high degree of academic engagement with the topic. The cumulative citation count stands at 2,242, yielding an average of 8.12 citations per paper, and a higher average of 11.62 Citations per Cited Paper (C/CP). This distinction highlights that, although a subset of the literature remains uncited, the cited works have garnered substantial scholarly attention, indicating the presence of influential contributions within the field.

The average Citation rate per Year (C/Y) is 33.97, which serves as an indicator of the field's citation momentum and evolving relevance over time. The citation per author, also measured at 8.12, aligns with the Citation per Paper (C/P) metric, reinforcing the observation that most works are single-authored and the influence is distributed evenly across individual contributors.

Regarding author-level impact indicators, the dataset reveals an h-index of 26, indicating that 26 of the author's publications have each received at least 26 citations, a robust indicator of consistent scholarly influence. The g-index, recorded at 36, reflects that the top publications are frequently cited and include several highly cited papers, capturing the depth of citation impact across the most influential subset of the literature. The m-index, which adjusts the h-index by the number of active years since the first publication, stands at 0.388, suggesting moderate yet stable scholarly productivity over time.

The citations within the h-core, which aggregates citations from the h-index threshold set of publications, amount to 1,970, highlighting the strong citation performance of core influential papers within the field. Collectively, these metrics reveal a maturing and increasingly impactful research landscape surrounding entrepreneurship and disability, characterized by measurable scholarly attention and a solid core of influential works that shape the intellectual foundation of the field.

Table 2: Document Type

Document Type	TP	Percentage
Article	203	73.55%
Book Chapter	29	10.51%
Conference Paper	17	6.16%
Review	13	4.71%
Short Survey	4	1.45%
Book	3	1.09%
Editorial	3	1.09%
Note	3	1.09%
Letter	1	0.36%

Source: Generated by the author(s) using biblioMagika® (Ahmi, 2024)

Table 2 presents the distribution of the 276 publications by document type, offering insights into the preferred formats for disseminating research on entrepreneurship and disability. The overwhelming majority of the documents are peer-reviewed journal articles, which account for 203 publications, representing 73.55% of the total dataset. This predominance reflects the centrality of journal articles as the primary medium for scholarly communication and the dissemination of empirical and theoretical advancements in this field. Book chapters constitute the second most common document type, with 29 entries (10.51%), indicating that edited volumes and thematic compilations also serve as important outlets for research in this domain, possibly reflecting interdisciplinary contributions and conceptual discussions that extend beyond the scope of journals.

A smaller proportion of publications appear as conference papers (17 papers; 6.16%), suggesting that while conferences

serve as a venue for initial dissemination and scholarly exchange, fewer contributions are subsequently published in proceedings or maintain visibility in citation databases. Review articles, numbering 13 (4.71%), underscore the presence of a modest yet significant effort to synthesize existing knowledge and outline future research directions. Other document types include short surveys (4; 1.45%), books (3; 1.09%), editorials (3; 1.09%), and notes (3; 1.09%), all of which reflect more specialized forms of scholarly communication. Notably, only one letter (0.36%) was identified, suggesting minimal engagement with brief or opinion-based formats in this area of study.

Table 3: Source Type

Source Type	TP	Percentage%
Journal	224	81.16%
Book	28	10.14%
Book Series	12	4.35%
Conference Proceeding	10	3.62%
Trade Journal	2	0.72%

Source: Generated by the author(s) using biblioMagika® (Ahmi, 2024)

Table 3 presents the classification of the 276 documents by source type, offering insights into the publication venues that dominate scholarly dissemination within the field of entrepreneurship and disability. Most of the contributions, which account for 224 publications, or 81.16% of the total, were published in academic journals, underscoring the central role that peer-reviewed journals play in shaping and disseminating the intellectual discourse on this topic. This dominance is consistent with broader patterns in academic publishing, where journals serve as the primary outlets for both empirical research and theoretical development, and where publication in high-quality journals is often linked to greater scholarly visibility and citation impact.

Books represent the second most common source type, comprising 28 publications (10.14%). This reflects the continued relevance of monographs and edited volumes, particularly in disciplines where in-depth, thematic exploration and interdisciplinary perspectives are valued. Book series, with 12 entries (4.35%), further indicate the structured and ongoing scholarly engagement with the topic, often within specialized thematic collections or academic programs.

A smaller yet notable portion of the literature, 10 publications (3.62%), was disseminated through conference proceedings. This suggests that conferences serve as platforms for disseminating early-stage research and networking, and, to a limited extent, as formal channels for publication. Lastly, trade journals, accounting for only two publications (0.72%), represent a marginal portion of the total output, pointing to limited engagement with practitioner-oriented or industry-focused publications within this research area.

Table 4 Languages

Language	TP	Percentage
English	263	95.29%
Spanish	5	1.81%
French	2	0.72%
Russian	2	0.72%
German	1	0.36%
Italian	1	0.36%

Polish	1	0.36%
Swedish	1	0.36%

Source: Generated by the author(s) using biblioMagika® (Ahmi, 2024)

Table 4 outlines the linguistic distribution of the 276 documents included in the bibliometric analysis, revealing a strong predominance of publications in English, which accounts for 263 documents, or 95.29% of the total. This overwhelming dominance reflects the central role of English as the global lingua franca of academic communication, particularly in fields such as entrepreneurship and disability studies that intersect with international development, policy, and interdisciplinary scholarship. The widespread use of English facilitates broader dissemination, visibility, and citation of research findings across geographic and disciplinary boundaries.

Other languages are represented in significantly smaller proportions, suggesting limited but noteworthy regional engagement with the topic. Spanish ranks as the second most prevalent language, with five publications (1.81%), likely reflecting contributions from Latin American or Spanish-speaking European contexts. French and Russian follow, with two publications each (0.72%), while German, Italian, Polish, and Swedish are each represented by a single publication (0.36%). These contributions, though numerically modest, highlight the geographic and cultural diversity of the scholarly discourse on entrepreneurship and disability.

The relatively low representation of non-English publications may be indicative of two interrelated factors: the global orientation of the academic community, which incentivizes publication in English-language journals for greater impact and recognition, and the possible underrepresentation or limited indexing of regional-language publications in international citation databases such as Scopus. Despite these limitations, the inclusion of multilingual sources underscores the study's commitment to capturing diverse scholarly perspectives and reducing language bias.

Table 5: Subject Area

Subject Area	TP	%
Social Sciences	119	43.12%
Business, Management and Accounting	112	40.58%
Medicine	65	23.55%
Economics, Econometrics and Finance	50	18.12%
Health Professions	47	17.03%
Psychology	21	7.61%
Engineering	20	7.25%
Computer Science	19	6.88%
Arts and Humanities	15	5.43%
Decision Sciences	8	2.90%
Environmental Science	8	2.90%
Nursing	7	2.54%
Mathematics	6	2.17%

Energy	4	1.45%
Multidisciplinary	3	1.09%
Neuroscience	3	1.09%
Biochemistry, Genetics and Molecular Biology	2	0.72%
Chemistry	2	0.72%
Materials Science	2	0.72%
Pharmacology, Toxicology and Pharmaceutics	2	0.72%
Physics and Astronomy	2	0.72%
Agricultural and Biological Sciences	1	0.36%
Chemical Engineering	1	0.36%
Veterinary	1	0.36%

Source: Generated by the author(s) using biblioMagika® (Ahmi, 2024)

Table 5 provides a detailed classification of the 276 publications by subject area, highlighting the multidisciplinary nature of research at the intersection of entrepreneurship and disability. The data indicate that the most significant proportion of publications is concentrated in the Social Sciences, which accounts for 119 documents (43.12%). This dominant presence underscores the socio-cultural and policy-oriented dimensions of the topic, including issues related to social inclusion, empowerment, and the societal implications of entrepreneurial activities among individuals with disabilities.

Closely following is the Business, Management, and Accounting category, with 112 publications (40.58%), reflecting the direct relevance of the subject to entrepreneurial theory, business development, and organizational behavior. These contributions are likely to include studies on inclusive business models, disability-focused enterprise strategies, and policy mechanisms to support entrepreneurs with disabilities.

The field of Medicine, represented by 65 documents (23.55%), and Health Professions, with 47 publications (17.03%), reveal a substantial engagement from the health sciences, particularly in exploring the intersection between disability, rehabilitation, occupational health, and vocational reintegration through entrepreneurial pathways. Similarly, the inclusion of Psychology (21 documents; 7.61%) highlights the psychological factors influencing entrepreneurial motivation, identity, and resilience among individuals with disabilities.

Other notable disciplines include Economics, Econometrics, and Finance (50 publications; 18.12%) and Engineering (20 publications; 7.25%), suggesting that economic policy analysis and technological innovations also contribute to the scholarly discourse. Computer Science (19 documents; 6.88%) likely reflects the increasing role of digital entrepreneurship and assistive technologies in enabling business participation for persons with disabilities.

Smaller but relevant contributions are observed from Arts and Humanities (15 publications; 5.43%), Decision Sciences and Environmental Science (each with eight documents; 2.90%), as well as Nursing, Mathematics, Energy, and other science and health-related fields. These findings suggest that, while the core literature is rooted in the social sciences and business, research on entrepreneurship and disability also encompasses a broad spectrum of academic disciplines.

Publication Trends

Table 6: Publication by Year

Year	TP	NCA	NCP	TC	C/P	C/CP	<i>h</i>	<i>g</i>	<i>m</i>
1959	1	1	0	0	0.00	0.00	0	0	0.000
1963	1	1	0	0	0.00	0.00	0	0	0.000
1971	1	1	1	1	1.00	1.00	1	1	0.018
1982	1	1	0	0	0.00	0.00	0	0	0.000
1986	2	2	0	0	0.00	0.00	0	0	0.000
1989	1	1	1	21	21.00	21.00	1	1	0.027
1990	1	1	0	0	0.00	0.00	0	0	0.000
1991	1	1	1	12	12.00	12.00	1	1	0.029
1992	2	2	2	4	2.00	2.00	1	2	0.029
1994	4	4	2	13	3.25	6.50	1	3	0.031
1995	2	2	2	3	1.50	1.50	1	1	0.032
1996	2	2	2	2	1.00	1.00	1	1	0.033
1998	6	6	5	77	12.83	15.40	4	6	0.143
1999	2	2	2	68	34.00	34.00	2	2	0.074
2000	4	4	3	71	17.75	23.67	2	4	0.077
2001	3	3	3	102	34.00	34.00	3	3	0.120
2002	2	2	2	52	26.00	26.00	1	2	0.042
2004	1	1	0	0	0.00	0.00	0	0	0.000
2005	1	1	0	0	0.00	0.00	0	0	0.000
2006	5	5	4	106	21.20	26.50	4	5	0.200
2007	9	9	8	129	14.33	16.13	3	9	0.158
2008	1	1	0	0	0.00	0.00	0	0	0.000
2009	2	2	2	15	7.50	7.50	2	2	0.118
2010	6	6	5	57	9.50	11.40	4	6	0.250
2011	1	1	1	2	2.00	2.00	1	1	0.067
2012	2	2	1	6	3.00	6.00	1	2	0.071
2013	7	7	6	107	15.29	17.83	5	7	0.385

2014	6	6	6	135	22.50	22.50	4	6	0.333
2015	7	7	4	22	3.14	5.50	3	4	0.273
2016	7	7	7	148	21.14	21.14	5	7	0.500
2017	9	9	9	94	10.44	10.44	5	9	0.556
2018	13	13	10	99	7.62	9.90	5	9	0.625
2019	29	29	28	361	12.45	12.89	11	18	1.571
2020	15	15	10	142	9.47	14.20	7	11	1.167
2021	22	22	18	112	5.09	6.22	6	10	1.200
2022	35	35	17	129	3.69	7.59	8	10	2.000
2023	24	24	14	94	3.92	6.71	6	9	2.000
2024	31	31	16	54	1.74	3.38	4	5	2.000
2025	7	7	1	4	0.57	4.00	1	2	1.000
Total	276	276	193	2242	8.12	11.62	26	36	0.388

Note: TP=total number of publications; NCA=Number of contributing authors; NCP=number of cited publications; TC=total citations; C/P=average citations per publication; C/CP=average citations per cited publication; h=h-index; g=g-index; m=m-index

Table 6 presents the annual distribution of publications on entrepreneurship and disability from 1959 to 2025, along with corresponding citation metrics, providing a longitudinal view of scholarly engagement and impact within the field. The publication trajectory reveals a gradual increase in scholarly output, particularly after the late 1990s, culminating in a noticeable surge from 2018 onwards. While early publications such as those from 1959, 1963, and 1971 were rare and largely uncited, they represent the foundational intellectual efforts that predate the widespread recognition of disability entrepreneurship as a legitimate research domain.

The growth remains modest through the 1980s and early 1990s, with a small but steady stream of publications, many of which garnered relatively few citations. However, 1998 marks a significant inflection point, with a higher citation impact, especially in 1999 and the early 2000s. For instance, publications in 1999 and 2001 demonstrated exceptional impact, each receiving 34 citations per paper, and contributing to a rise in both the h-index and g-index during this period.

From 2006 onwards, both the publication volume and citation impact began to increase more consistently. The year 2006 stands out with five publications and a total of 106 citations, resulting in an average of 21.20 C/P, which suggests the emergence of highly influential works. This momentum continued throughout the following decade, with the period from 2013 to 2016 reflecting both an increase in publication frequency and a steady rise in citation performance. The h-index values during these years also indicate the sustained influence of research outputs, with several years recording h-scores of 4 or higher.

A marked acceleration is observed in the post-2018 period, particularly from 2019 to 2024, with 2022 as the peak publication year, contributing 35 documents to the corpus. Although the citation averages in the most recent years (2022–2025) are understandably lower due to limited citation windows, the high number of outputs demonstrates a growing academic interest and the field's maturation. Notably, the m-index, which measures the consistency of scholarly influence over time, reached its highest point (2.000) in 2022, 2023, and 2024, highlighting the intensity of recent scholarly productivity.

The cumulative impact of the dataset is reflected in the total of 2,242 citations across 276 publications, averaging 8.12

citations per paper, with 193 of the documents being cited multiple times. The h-index of 26 and g-index of 36 indicate the existence of a core set of highly influential publications that shape the intellectual landscape of the field. Furthermore, the increasing publication and citation trends in recent years suggest that research on entrepreneurship and disability has become more visible and academically significant, indicating its growing relevance within both scholarly and policy discourses.

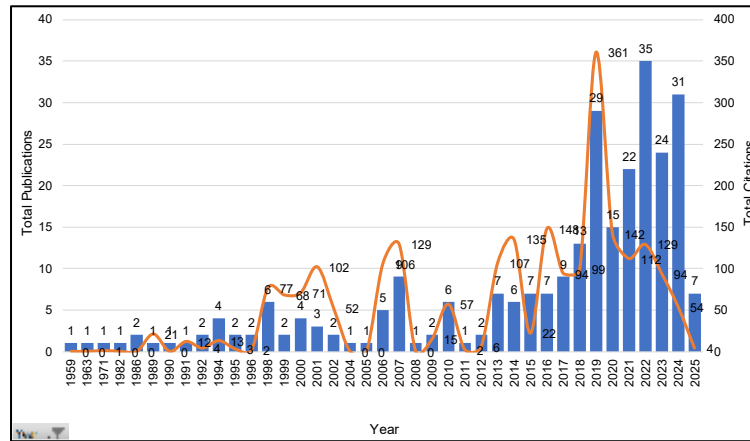


Figure 2 Total Publications and Citations by Year

Source: Generated by the author(s) using biblioMagika® (Ahmi, 2024)

Figure 2 illustrates the temporal distribution of both TP (depicted by blue bars) and Total Citations (TC) (represented by the orange trend line) for research on entrepreneurship and disability from 1959 to 2025. The figure reveals a clear trend of increasing scholarly attention to the topic, particularly in the last two decades. From 1959 through the mid-1990s, publication activity remained sparse and irregular, with only one to four publications appearing sporadically across most years. During this early period, citation activity was virtually non-existent, reflecting limited visibility and academic engagement with the field.

A more discernible increase begins in the late 1990s, particularly in 1998, where a notable citation spike occurs despite a relatively low number of publications. This pattern suggests the emergence of seminal works during this period that had a substantial impact on subsequent scholarship. The upward trajectory in both publications and citations becomes more consistent after 2006, with significant peaks observed in 2006, 2007, 2013, 2014, and 2016. Note that each year exhibits higher publication counts and corresponding growth in citations. These years mark important turning points, likely reflecting a broadening recognition of disability entrepreneurship as a research priority across disciplines.

A dramatic rise is observed beginning in 2018, where both publication output and citation counts accelerate sharply. The year 2019 stands out as the most prolific in terms of citation impact, with 361 citations the highest across the entire timeline despite having 29 publications. This suggests a clustering of high-impact research outputs or the publication of widely cited foundational studies. The period from 2020 to 2024 continues to demonstrate sustained scholarly productivity, with peak publication years in 2022 (35 publications) and 2024 (31 publications). Although the citation numbers slightly decline in the most recent years, this is expected due to the limited time for citation accumulation.

The year 2025 shows a drop in both publications and citations, with only seven publications and 54 citations. However, this is likely a result of incomplete citation windows and indexing lag. Overall, the figure illustrates a strong upward trend in academic interest and influence, indicating that the intersection of entrepreneurship and disability is evolving into a robust field of inquiry, characterized by increasing scholarly output and citation traction.

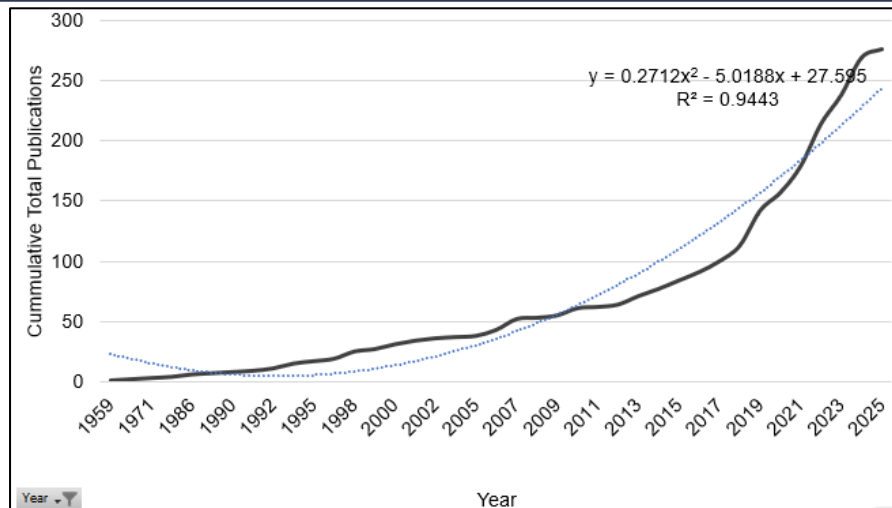


Figure 3: Publication Growth

Source: Generated by the author(s) using biblioMagika® (Ahmi, 2024)

Figure 3 depicts the cumulative growth of scholarly publications on entrepreneurship and disability from 1959 to 2025, highlighting the longitudinal development of the field. The solid black curve represents the actual cumulative number of publications. At the same time, the dotted line indicates the fitted quadratic trend line, modeled by the equation $y = 0.2712x^2 - 5.0188x + 27.595$, with a Coefficient of Determination (R^2) of 0.9443. This high R^2 value suggests a strong fit, indicating that the quadratic model accurately captures the underlying trend in publication growth over time.

In the early decades (1959–1995), the cumulative publication count remains relatively low and stable, with minimal growth. This reflects the nascent stage of scholarly interest in the intersection of entrepreneurship and disability, during which research activity was sporadic and largely isolated. Beginning in the late 1990s, a gradual uptick becomes apparent, corresponding to the emergence of more consistent academic contributions. This momentum continues through the 2000s, with the curve beginning to steepen, signalling increased scholarly engagement.

The most significant acceleration in publication growth is observed from approximately 2015 onwards, where the curve adopts an increasingly steep trajectory. This inflection point aligns with a broader trend of growing global awareness around issues of inclusivity, social entrepreneurship, and disability rights, which may have catalyzed research interest and output in this area. The continued sharp rise from 2019 to 2025 confirms a surge in academic productivity, reinforcing the view that entrepreneurship among individuals with disabilities has become a significant and rapidly expanding domain of scholarly inquiry.

The polynomial trendline effectively captures this non-linear growth pattern, indicating that the field has entered a phase of exponential or accelerated expansion. Such a trajectory reflects increased academic attention and suggests the maturation and institutionalization of the field within the broader landscape of entrepreneurship and social inclusion research.

Publications by Authors

Table 7 Most Productive Authors

Full Name	Current Affiliation	Country	TP	NCP	TC	C/P	C/CP	<i>h</i>	<i>g</i>	<i>m</i>
Harris, Sarah Parker	University of Illinois	United States	7	7	182	26.00	26.00	6	7	0.462
Caldwell, Kate	University of Illinois	United States	6	6	160	26.67	26.67	5	6	0.385

Renko, Maija	DePaul University Chicago	United States	6	6	160	26.67	26.67	5	6	0.385
Yousafzai, Shumaila	Nazarbayev University	Kazakhstan	5	0	0	0.00	0.00	0	0	0.000
Gyori, Z.	Budapest Business School	Hungary	5	4	44	8.80	11.00	3	5	0.429
Salinero, Yolanda	University of Castilla-La Mancha (UCLM)	Spain	5	4	41	8.20	10.25	3	5	0.429
Csillag, Sara	Budapest Business School	Hungary	5	4	44	8.80	11.00	3	5	0.429
Svastics, C.	Eötvös Loránd University	Hungary	5	4	44	8.80	11.00	3	5	0.429
AN, NA	Affiliation NA	Country NA	5	1	1	0.20	1.00	1	1	0.028
Ortiz García, Pilar	University of Murcia	Spain	4	3	36	9.00	12.00	3	4	0.429
Abdullah, Shuhairimi	Memorial University of Newfoundland	Canada	4	3	3	0.75	1.00	1	1	0.125
Hidegh, Anna Laura	Corvinus University of Budapest	Hungary	4	3	22	5.50	7.33	2	4	0.500
Fernández, M. Valle	Universidad Pontificia Comillas	Spain	4	2	15	3.75	7.50	2	3	0.333
Germundsson, Per	Malmö University	Sweden	4	3	23	5.75	7.67	2	4	0.500
Norstedt, Maria	Malmö University	Sweden	4	3	23	5.75	7.67	2	4	0.500
Alqahtani, Saeed S.	Prince Sattam bin Abdulaziz University	Saudi Arabia	3	3	18	6.00	6.00	3	3	0.500
Rozali, Norhasyikin	Universiti Malaysia Perlis	Malaysia	3	2	2	0.67	1.00	1	1	0.125
Ng, Wilson	University of Cambridge	United Kingdom	3	0	0	0.00	0.00	0	0	0.000
Jammaers, Eline	Hasselt University	Belgium	3	3	45	15.00	15.00	2	3	0.250
Dakung, Reuel Johnmark	University of Jos	Nigeria	3	3	42	14.00	14.00	3	3	0.333
Shaheen, Gary	University of Haifa	Israel	3	3	38	12.67	12.67	2	3	0.200

Barba-Sánchez, Virginia	University of Castilla-La Mancha (UCLM)	Spain	3	3	24	8.00	8.00	3	3	0.429
Almalky, Hussain A.	Prince Sattam bin Abdulaziz University	Saudi Arabia	3	3	18	6.00	6.00	3	3	0.500
Hussin, Noor Salwani	Universiti Malaysia Perlis	Malaysia	3	2	2	0.67	1.00	1	1	0.125
Alexander, June	Flinders University	Australia	3	3	24	8.00	8.00	3	3	0.500

TC=total citations; C/P=average citations per publication; C/CP=average citations per cited publication; h=h-index; g=g-index; m=m-index.

Source: Generated by the author(s) using biblioMagika® (Ahmi, 2024)

Table 7 presents the most productive authors in the field of entrepreneurship and disability, based on TP, accompanied by key bibliometric indicators, including TC, C/P, h-index, g-index, and m-index. This analysis highlights both the volume and the scholarly impact of individual contributors to the domain.

Leading the field is Sarah Parker Harris from the University of Illinois (United States), with a total of 7 publications, all of which are cited, accumulating 182 citations, and averaging 26 citations per paper. She holds a notable h-index of 6 and g-index of 7, demonstrating both consistency and influence across her body of work. Close behind are Kate Caldwell (University of Illinois) and Maija Renko (DePaul University, Chicago), each with six publications, also unitedly cited, and each having an impressive 26.67 C/P, alongside an h-index of 5. This triad of American scholars has significantly shaped the discourse in this field, both in terms of volume and academic impact.

In contrast, some authors, such as Shumaila Yousafzai (Nazarbayev University, Kazakhstan) and Wilson Ng (University of Cambridge, UK), although having published multiple papers (5 and 3 respectively), currently register no citations, indicating that their contributions may be either recent or less widely recognized within the citation landscape.

Several authors from Hungary, notably Z. Gyori, Sara Csillag, and C. Svastics, have each contributed five publications, with strong citation metrics including approximately 44 total citations and C/P values of 8.80, supported by h-indices of 3, suggesting moderate yet impactful scholarly engagement. Similarly, Yolanda Salinero (University of Castilla-La Mancha (UCLM), Spain) has five papers and 41 citations, illustrating the presence of a productive research cluster in Southern and Central Europe.

From Spain, Pilar Ortiz García and Virginia Barba-Sánchez, along with M. Valle Fernández, represent additional key contributors, each with multiple publications and h-indices ranging from 2 to 3, indicating consistent scholarly engagement. In Scandinavia, Per Germundsson and Maria Norstedt (Malmö University, Sweden) have also demonstrated notable productivity and citation impact, reflecting regional interest in inclusive entrepreneurship and disability policy.

Moreover, scholars such as Eline Jammaers (Hasselt University, Belgium), Reuel Johnmark Dakung (University of Jos, Nigeria), and Gary Shaheen (University of Haifa, Israel) have achieved high average C/P ($C/P > 12$), indicating the quality and relevance of their research despite a smaller volume of output. Authors from Saudi Arabia, Malaysia, and Australia also appear among the most productive, reflecting the global and interdisciplinary reach of this emerging research field.

Publications by Institutions

Table 8 Most Productive Institutions with a Minimum of Five Publications

Institution Name	Country	TP	NCA	NCP	TC	C/P	C/CP	<i>h</i>	<i>g</i>	<i>m</i>
Affiliation NA	United States	56	56	33	303	5.41	9.18	8	17	0.119
University of Illinois	United States	32	32	30	681	21.28	22.70	1 6	26	1.231
University of Murcia	Spain	22	22	20	154	7.00	7.70	8	12	1.143
Universiti Malaysia Kelantan	Malaysia	18	18	0	0	0.00	0.00	0	0	0.000
Universiti Malaysia Perlis	Malaysia	14	14	10	10	0.71	1.00	1	3	0.125
Virginia Commonwealth University	United States	14	14	10	66	4.71	6.60	3	8	0.094
University of Castilla-La Mancha (UCLM)	Spain	13	13	10	117	9.00	11.70	7	10	1.000
Budapest Business School	Hungary	11	11	9	90	8.18	10.00	6	9	0.857
University of California	United States	10	10	8	130	13.00	16.25	7	10	0.189
Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia UKM	Malaysia	9	9	0	0	0.00	0.00	0	0	0.000
Cardiff University	United Kingdom	9	9	0	0	0.00	0.00	0	0	0.000
Syracuse University	United States	9	9	9	174	19.33	19.33	6	9	0.231
Flinders University	Australia	8	8	8	64	8.00	8.00	7	8	1.400
Islamic Azad University	Iran	7	7	2	10	1.43	5.00	1	3	0.125
Universiti Teknologi Malaysia	Malaysia	7	7	5	25	3.57	5.00	5	5	0.500
Universitas Negeri Yogyakarta	Indonesia	7	7	2	4	0.57	2.00	2	2	0.250
Universiti Teknologi MARA	Malaysia	7	7	0	0	0.00	0.00	0	0	0.000
City College of New York	United States	7	7	3	6	0.86	2.00	2	2	0.125
Cornell University School of Industrial Labor Relations	United States	6	6	3	15	2.50	5.00	3	3	0.333

University of Leicester	United Kingdom	6	6	4	54	9.00	13.50	4	6	0.667
University of Wisconsin	United States	6	6	6	61	10.17	10.17	2	6	0.083
Telkom University	Indonesia	6	6	6	11	1.83	1.83	2	3	0.222
Prince Sattam bin Abdulaziz University	Saudi Arabia	6	6	6	36	6.00	6.00	6	6	1.000
Malmö University	Sweden	6	6	4	44	7.33	11.00	4	6	1.000
University of Toronto	Canada	5	5	5	55	11.00	11.00	5	5	0.313

Note: TP=total number of publications; NCA=number of contributing authors; NCP=number of cited publications; TC=total citations; C/P=average citations per publication; C/CP=average citations per cited publication; h=h-index; g=g-index; m=m-index.

Source: Generated by the author(s) using biblioMagika® (Ahmi, 2024)

Table 8 identifies the most productive academic institutions in the field of entrepreneurship and disability, limited to those with a minimum of five publications. The analysis considers the TP and the scholarly impact as reflected in citation metrics such as TC, C/P, h-index, and g-index.

The most prolific institution, categorized under “Affiliation NA,” has 56 publications and 303 citations, resulting in a moderate C/P of 5.41 and an h-index of 8. In contrast, the data highlight its numerical contribution. However, the lack of a definable institutional identity limits its interpretative value. More specifically, the University of Illinois, located in the United States, emerges as the most influential institution in both productivity and impact, with 32 publications, an exceptional 681 TC, and the highest h-index (16) and g-index (26) among all listed institutions. Its C/P (21.28) and m-index (1.231) further reflect a sustained and high-impact scholarly output, underscoring its leading role in shaping the discourse on disability and entrepreneurship.

Other top-performing institutions include the University of Murcia (Spain) with 22 publications and 154 citations, averaging 7.00 citations per paper and showing solid performance with an h-index of 8. Similarly, the UCLM also demonstrates a notable impact, with 13 publications and 117 citations, achieving a C/P ratio of 9.00 and an m-index of 1.000, suggesting sustained productivity and influence over time.

Syracuse University (United States) also exhibits strong performance, with nine publications yielding 174 citations and a high C/P of 19.33, placing it among the more influential institutions despite its relatively minor output. Flinders University (Australia) stands out with an m-index of 1.400, the highest in the table, signaling a steep and consistent growth trajectory in scholarly impact.

In contrast, several Malaysian institutions such as Universiti Malaysia Kelantan, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM), and Universiti Teknologi MARA appear frequently in terms of total output (ranging from 7 to 18 publications). However, many of these contributions remain uncited, as evidenced by zero citations and corresponding h- and g-indices of 0. This suggests that while institutional participation in the field is expanding, the citation impact of some regional contributions remains limited, possibly due to visibility or indexing challenges.

Other noteworthy contributors include Budapest Business School (Hungary), with 11 publications and 90 citations; Malmö University (Sweden), with a C/P ratio of 7.33; and Prince Sattam bin Abdulaziz University (Saudi Arabia), with a balanced output and a solid h-index of 6. The University of Toronto (Canada), represented by only five publications, exhibits a substantial per-publication impact (C/P of 11.00), indicating the presence of high-quality, targeted contributions.

Publications by Countries

Table 9 Top 20 Countries Contributed to the Publications

Country	TP	NCA	NCP	TC	C/P	C/CP	<i>h</i>	<i>g</i>	<i>m</i>
United States	95	232	73	1000	10.53	13.70	18	31	0.286
United Kingdom	27	58	18	282	10.44	15.67	9	16	0.450
Spain	25	65	20	147	5.88	7.35	8	12	0.571
Australia	24	50	20	343	14.29	17.15	9	18	0.346
Malaysia	15	69	6	21	1.40	3.50	3	4	0.300
Country NA	12	12	4	5	0.42	1.25	1	2	0.015
India	12	31	6	51	4.25	8.50	3	7	0.273
Indonesia	11	34	8	26	2.36	3.25	3	5	0.333
Canada	9	17	8	101	11.22	12.63	6	9	0.214
France	6	9	4	51	8.50	12.75	4	6	0.364
Sweden	6	14	5	73	12.17	14.60	4	6	0.200
Iran	5	13	3	36	7.20	12.00	2	5	0.222
Germany	5	9	4	19	3.80	4.75	3	4	0.158
Russian Federation	5	20	4	50	10.00	12.50	2	5	0.286
Thailand	5	9	3	27	5.40	9.00	2	5	0.167
Hungary	5	19	4	44	8.80	11.00	3	5	0.429
Saudi Arabia	4	8	3	18	4.50	6.00	3	4	0.500
Israel	4	6	4	17	4.25	4.25	2	4	0.057
Kazakhstan	4	4	0	0	0.00	0.00	0	0	0.000
Uganda	3	5	3	42	14.00	14.00	3	3	0.333

Note: TP=total number of publications; NCA=number of contributing authors; NCP=number of cited publications; TC=total citations; C/P=average citations per publication; C/CP=average citations per cited publication; *h*=*h*-index; and *g*=*g*-index.

Source: Generated by the author(s) using biblioMagika® (Ahmi, 2024)

Table 9 presents the top 20 countries contributing to the body of literature on entrepreneurship and disability, offering a comparative view of publication volume, citation impact, and scholarly influence by geographical origin. The United States leads by a substantial margin, contributing 95 publications authored by 232 researchers, of which 73 are cited, accumulating a total of 1,000 citations. This results in a high average of 10.53 C/P and a strong *h*-index of 18, underscoring the central role of the United States in shaping both the quantity and impact of research in this domain.

Following the United States, the United Kingdom ranks second with 27 publications, 282 citations, and an impressive C/P ratio of 10.44 and C/CP ratio of 15.67, suggesting that United Kingdom-based research is highly cited. However, those in



smaller numbers tend to be highly cited. The country's h-index of 9 and m-index of 0.450 reinforce its reputation for producing high-quality, impactful scholarship.

Spain and Australia also demonstrate strong contributions. Spain, with 25 publications and 147 citations, exhibits a moderate impact, as indicated by a C/P ratio of 5.88. In contrast, Australia, despite publishing a similar number of papers (24), boasts a significantly higher citation count of 343 and a C/P ratio of 14.29, suggesting its research has garnered substantial academic attention. Australia also holds a high g-index of 18 and m-index of 0.346, marking it as one of the most influential contributors in relative terms.

Malaysia ranks fifth in TP (15), but its citation impact is notably low, with only 21 citations, resulting in a C/P of 1.40. This may reflect either emerging engagement or limited visibility and impact of Malaysian research in the global academic discourse. A similar pattern is observed for Indonesia, Iran, and Saudi Arabia, each contributing multiple publications but with modest citation performance. In contrast, Canada exhibits a substantial scholarly impact, with nine publications and 101 citations, resulting in an average of 11.22 citations per paper and a h-index of 9, indicating high research quality.

Other countries such as France, Sweden, and Hungary also demonstrate efficient scholarly output. France, despite only six publications, achieves a C/P of 8.50. At the same time, Sweden, with a C/P of 12.17, outperforms many countries with larger volumes, indicating selective but influential research. Hungary contributes five papers with 44 citations, suggesting active engagement within a focused institutional cluster.

Notably, Uganda, although contributing only three publications, achieves a high C/P of 14.00, positioning it among the most efficient in terms of citation impact per paper. This suggests that research emerging from underrepresented regions may be especially valuable and novel, warranting broader academic attention. Meanwhile, Kazakhstan, despite four publications, records zero citations, possibly indicating recent contributions yet to accumulate scholarly recognition.

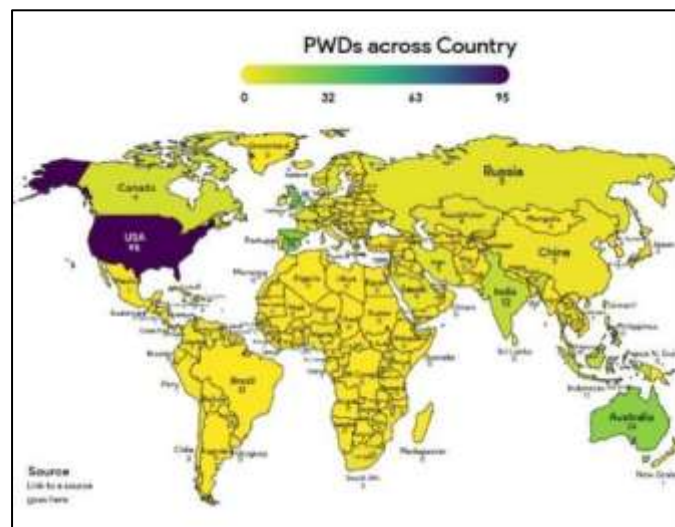


Figure 4 Worldwide Scientific Production Indexed by Scopus on Labor Relations

Source: Generated by the author(s) using iipmaps.com

The geographical distribution of scholarly output in the field of entrepreneurship and disability reveals a highly uneven yet globally dispersed pattern of contributions, as illustrated in Table 9 and the corresponding world map visualization. The United States dominates this landscape, contributing 95 publications, supported by 232 contributing authors and 73 cited papers, leading to an impressive 1,000 TC. With an average of 10.53 C/P and an h-index of 18, the United States emerges as the central hub of scholarly activity, influence, and productivity in the field. The high values across citation metrics, with a g-index of 31 and an m-index of 0.286, further demonstrate the consistent impact and scholarly leadership of American institutions and researchers.

The United Kingdom ranks second with 27 publications and a notably high C/CP ratio of 15.67, indicating that although its output is smaller in volume, its scholarly influence is significant. Its h-index of 9 and m-index of 0.450 point to a highly

efficient and impactful academic contribution. In a similar vein, Australia, with 24 publications, has one of the highest C/P values at 14.29, supported by 343 TC and an h-index of 9, reflecting a robust and impactful body of work.

Spain follows closely with 25 publications and 147 citations, maintaining a strong academic presence with an h-index of 8. Notably, the University of Murcia and the UCLM are central contributors to Spain's performance. Meanwhile, Malaysia, despite producing 15 publications with 69 contributing authors, shows limited impact, reflected in a low C/P of 1.40, suggesting that while academic engagement is present, visibility and influence remain constrained.

Emerging research activity is evident in countries such as India (12 publications, 51 citations), Indonesia (11 publications, 26 citations), and Saudi Arabia (4 publications, 18 citations). These contributions demonstrate growing regional interest, although many remain on the periphery of citation impact. Note that countries such as Kazakhstan and Japan are represented in the dataset but have yet to register notable citation impact, indicating either nascent research output or challenges in scholarly dissemination.

Canada stands out with a high citation impact relative to its size, with nine publications generating 101 citations and a strong C/P ratio of 11.22, reflecting high-quality, high-impact publications. Similarly, Sweden, with just six publications, achieves 73 citations, resulting in a C/P ratio of 12.17 and a C/CP ratio of 14.60, indicative of efficient and influential research contributions.

Other notable contributors include France, Iran, and Hungary, all of which have moderate publication volumes and reasonable citation performance. Notably, Uganda stands out with three publications and 42 citations, resulting in a C/P ratio of 14.00, one of the highest in the dataset. This suggests that although the volume is low, the quality and relevance of Uganda's contributions are exceptionally high.

Publications by Source Titles

Table 10 Most Active Source Titles that Published 20 or More Documents

Source Title	TP	NC A	NC P	T C	C/P	C/CP	<i>h</i>	<i>g</i>	<i>m</i>
Journal of Vocational Rehabilitation	21	21	16	230	10.95	14.38	7	15	0.219
Research Handbook on Disability and Entrepreneurship	14	14	2	4	0.29	2.00	2	2	0.500
Journal of Entrepreneurship Education	12	12	12	115	9.58	9.58	7	10	1.000
Disability and Society	6	6	6	181	30.17	30.17	5	6	0.250
Lecture Notes in Networks and Systems	4	4	0	0	0.00	0.00	0	0	0.000
Psychiatric Rehabilitation Journal	4	4	3	24	6.00	8.00	2	4	0.071
Journal of Enterprising Communities	4	4	4	74	18.50	18.50	3	4	0.375
Business and Professional Communication Quarterly	4	4	4	29	7.25	7.25	3	4	0.300
Journal of Occupational Rehabilitation	3	3	3	26	8.67	8.67	2	3	0.200
Journal of Business Ethics	3	3	2	11	3.67	5.50	2	3	0.105
Iowa Law Review	3	3	2	69	23.00	34.50	1	3	0.038

Administrative Sciences	3	3	2	19	6.33	9.50	1	3	0.143
International Journal of Entrepreneurial Behaviour and Research	3	3	3	76	25.33	25.33	3	3	0.429
Economist (United Kingdom)	2	2	0	0	0.00	0.00	0	0	0.000
Rehabilitation Psychology	2	2	2	57	28.50	28.50	2	2	0.083
Organization	2	2	2	26	13.00	13.00	2	2	0.667
Frontiers in Psychology	2	2	2	17	8.50	8.50	2	2	0.400
Entrepreneurship and Regional Development	2	2	2	43	21.50	21.50	2	2	0.333
Work	2	2	2	29	14.50	14.50	2	2	0.071
Advanced Science Letters	2	2	2	7	3.50	3.50	2	2	0.200

Note: TP=total number of publications; NCA=Number of contributing authors; NCP=number of cited publications; TC=total citations; C/P=average citations per publication; C/CP=average citations per cited publication; h=h-index; g=g-index; m=m-index.

Source: Generated by the author(s) using biblioMagika® (Ahmi, 2024)

Table 10 presents the most active source titles that have made significant contributions to the body of literature on entrepreneurship and disability, focusing on those that have published multiple documents on the topic. The Journal of Vocational Rehabilitation emerges as the most prolific source, with 21 publications, of which 16 are cited, accumulating a total of 230 citations. This results in an impressive average C/P of 10.95 and a C/CP of 14.38, supported by a robust h-index of 7 and g-index of 15, affirming its central role in disseminating research related to vocational and rehabilitative aspects of disability entrepreneurship.

The Research Handbook on Disability and Entrepreneurship, comprising 14 documents, exhibits minimal citation activity, with only four TC and a C/P ratio of 0.29. Although the volume is substantial, the low citation metrics suggest that its academic reach may be limited by its format (as a book rather than a journal), its relatively recent publication date, or lower indexing visibility in citation databases.

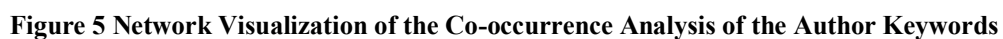
The Journal of Entrepreneurship Education is also a key publication outlet, contributing 12 papers, all of which are cited, resulting in a total of 115 citations and a C/P ratio of 9.58. With an h-index of 7, this journal demonstrates a high level of academic engagement and visibility, positioning it as a leading platform for pedagogical and practice-oriented research in disability entrepreneurship education.

Disability and Society, though contributing only six articles, exhibits outstanding scholarly influence with 181 citations, averaging 30.17 C/P. This is the highest citation impact among all sources listed, supported by an h-index of 5, indicating that articles published here are highly cited and foundational to the field's theoretical and critical discourse.

Other noteworthy sources include the Journal of Enterprising Communities, which featured four articles and 74 citations (C/P of 18.5), and the Iowa Law Review, which, despite having only three publications, garnered 69 citations, averaging 23 citations per article. These metrics suggest that although these journals contribute fewer papers, the influence of each article is substantial, particularly in bridging disciplinary intersections such as law, policy, and community entrepreneurship.

Several niche and interdisciplinary journals, including the Psychiatric Rehabilitation Journal, Business and Professional Communication Quarterly, and Journal of Occupational Rehabilitation, demonstrate moderate productivity and impact. Consequently, each has contributed between 3 and 4 articles with C/P values ranging from 6.00 to 8.67, reinforcing the relevance of disability entrepreneurship across health, communication, and rehabilitation disciplines.

Co-Occurrence Analysis



Source: Generated by the author(s) using VOSviewer (van Eck & Waltman, 2014)

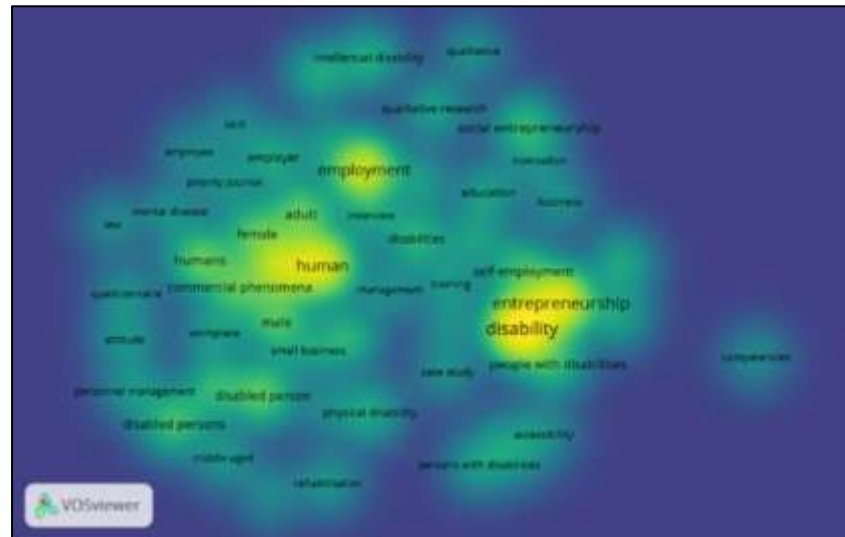


Figure 10 Density Visualization of the Co-occurrence Analysis of the Author Keywords

Source: Generated by the author(s) using VOSviewer (van Eck & Waltman, 2014)

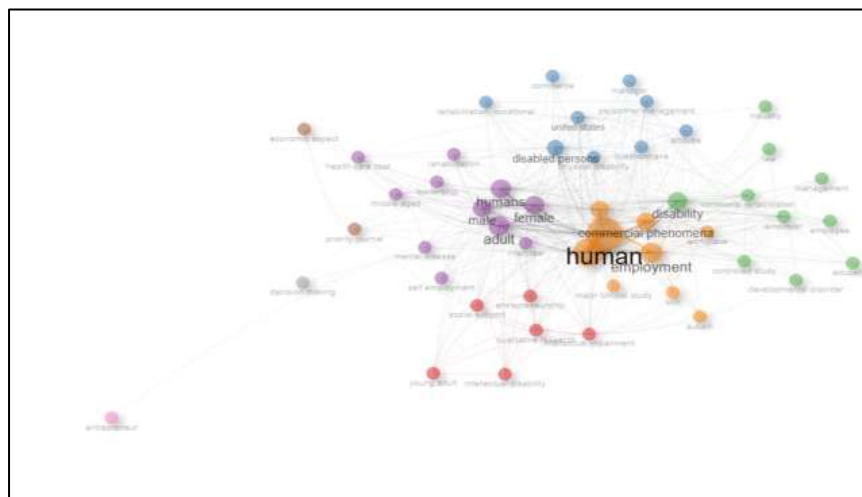


Figure 11 Biblioshiny

Source: Generated by the author(s) using Biblioshiny (Aria & Cuccurullo, 2017)

4. DISCUSSIONS

This bibliometric analysis offers a comprehensive overview of the scholarly landscape concerning entrepreneurship and disability, based on 276 publications indexed in Scopus from 1959 to 2025. The results reveal a clear upward trajectory in publication volume and citation impact over the past two decades, with a pronounced surge beginning in 2018. The United States leads globally in both productivity and influence, followed by countries such as the United Kingdom, Spain, and Australia. At the institutional level, the University of Illinois and the University of Murcia stand out as leading centres of scholarship. In terms of authorship, scholars such as Sarah Parker Harris, Kate Caldwell, and Maija Renko have emerged as the most prolific and influential contributors.

The Journal of Vocational Rehabilitation and the Journal of Entrepreneurship Education are among the most active publication venues, reflecting the dual academic focus on both vocational outcomes and entrepreneurship pedagogy. Keyword co-occurrence analysis highlights five primary thematic clusters, with core terms such as “entrepreneurship,” “disability,” “employment,” and “self-employment” serving as central nodes within the research network. Thematically, the literature encompasses areas such as social entrepreneurship, qualitative research on lived experiences, rehabilitation, and digital entrepreneurship.

The increasing scholarly attention to disability and entrepreneurship reflects a growing recognition of entrepreneurship as a viable pathway to economic inclusion for people with disabilities. This trend aligns with global shifts toward inclusive development agendas, such as the United Nations' SDGs and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), which emphasize access to decent work and the right to self-determination.

The concentration of impactful research in countries like the United States, the United Kingdom, and Australia may be attributed to stronger research infrastructures, greater availability of funding, and policy frameworks that support inclusive entrepreneurship. However, the limited citation performance of emerging economies, despite their high publication activity, may suggest challenges related to international visibility, dissemination, and indexing. The dominance of English-language publications also signals potential linguistic and regional publication bias.

Moreover, the co-occurrence network reveals that while some areas, such as employment and self-employment, are well-developed, subfields, including assistive technology, digital innovation, and policy frameworks, are underexplored. The high citation impact of papers addressing intersectionality, gender, and digital practices suggests a growing interest in nuanced, interdisciplinary perspectives. However, such themes remain underrepresented in the broader corpus.

The findings hold important implications for both policy and practice. Given the prominence of entrepreneurship as an inclusion strategy, governments, development agencies, and non-government organisations (NGOs) should consider investing in entrepreneurship education, accessible finance, and digital infrastructure tailored for persons with disabilities. Insights from highly cited papers can inform training models, mentorship schemes, and public-private partnerships that support self-employment and business incubation for entrepreneurs with disabilities.

The prominence of social entrepreneurship in the literature suggests a strong alignment with mission-driven models that prioritize both financial sustainability and social impact. As such, practitioners should be encouraged to integrate social innovation principles into the design and support of enterprises led by individuals with disabilities. Furthermore, employers and policymakers must address attitudinal barriers and workplace discrimination, which persist as recurring themes across the literature.

This study identifies several promising avenues for future inquiry. First, more empirical research is needed in developing and underrepresented regions, particularly in the Global South, where systemic barriers and institutional contexts differ significantly from those in Western economies. Second, future research should delve deeper into the intersection of identities, such as gender, race, and age, which intersect with disability in shaping entrepreneurial opportunities and outcomes.

Third, there is a need to evaluate the long-term outcomes and sustainability of disability-led enterprises. This would involve tracking business performance and exploring well-being, autonomy, and social inclusion as indicators of success. Finally, methodologically, there is scope for integrating mixed methods and longitudinal designs to complement the existing predominance of qualitative, cross-sectional, and conceptual studies.

While this bibliometric study offers valuable insights, several limitations warrant acknowledgment. First, the analysis is restricted to the Scopus database, which, although comprehensive, may exclude relevant works indexed in regional databases or grey literature sources. Second, by limiting the search to the article title field, some relevant studies that address entrepreneurship and disability more implicitly may have been excluded. This choice, however, was necessary to ensure high topical relevance and minimize false positives.

Moreover, citation metrics may not fully capture qualitative influence or policy impact, particularly in a socially oriented field like disability studies. Therefore, future bibliometric research might benefit from incorporating altmetric data or content analysis to assess non-academic influence. Expanding the scope to include co-authorship networks, funding acknowledgments, and institutional collaborations would also enrich the understanding of knowledge production dynamics in the field.

Despite these limitations, this study offers one of the first comprehensive bibliometric mappings of research on entrepreneurship and disability. It contributes to the systematization of knowledge, highlights impactful scholars and institutions, and provides a roadmap for future scholarship and practice in fostering inclusive entrepreneurship ecosystems.

5. CONCLUSIONS

Restating the Purpose of the Study

This bibliometric analysis aimed to systematically map the evolution, intellectual structure, and thematic trends within the



field of disability entrepreneurship research. Guided by three core research questions, the study sought to identify publication patterns, influential contributors, geographic and institutional dynamics, and emerging research frontiers in this interdisciplinary field.

Summary of Key Findings

The analysis of 276 Scopus-indexed publications (1959–2025) revealed a marked acceleration in scholarly output since 2018, with the United States leading in productivity (95 publications) and citation impact (1,000 total citations). Key institutions such as the University of Illinois and the University of Murcia emerged as central hubs. At the same time, scholars like Sarah Parker Harris and Maija Renko shaped the field's theoretical foundations. The *Journal of Vocational Rehabilitation* emerged as the primary publication venue, with thematic clusters focusing on social entrepreneurship, self-employment, and digital innovation. Geographically, contributions from the Global South remained sparse, and non-English publications accounted for only 4.71% of the corpus, indicating linguistic and regional biases.

Contributions to the Field

This study provides the first comprehensive bibliometric mapping of disability entrepreneurship research, offering three key contributions. First, it quantifies the field's growth trajectory, demonstrating its transition from a niche topic to a maturing interdisciplinary domain. Second, it identifies influential works, such as McKinnon's (2014) exploration of social entrepreneurship as an employment pathway, which has anchored subsequent policy discussions. Third, the co-occurrence analysis reveals underexplored intersections, including assistive technologies and intersectional identities, offering a roadmap for future inquiry.

Implications for Practice

The findings hold critical implications for policymakers, educators, and practitioners. Governments should prioritise accessible financing mechanisms and entrepreneurship education programs tailored to individuals with disabilities, informed by highly cited studies on systemic barriers to entrepreneurship. NGOs and development agencies can leverage insights from social entrepreneurship research to design mentorship programs that align with the United Nations SDGs. Additionally, the prominence of digital entrepreneurship in citation networks underscores the need for investments in inclusive digital infrastructure.

Limitations and Future Directions

While this study advances the field, its reliance on Scopus may exclude regional databases and grey literature. The title-field search strategy, though ensuring precision, might omit implicitly relevant works. Therefore, future research should incorporate non-English publications and mixed-methods approaches to explore cultural and contextual nuances. Longitudinal studies tracking the sustainability of disability-led enterprises and comparative analyses of policy frameworks across regions are urgently needed.

Final Statement

This bibliometric analysis provides a critical contribution to disability entrepreneurship research by systematically mapping the field's evolution, intellectual structure, and emerging frontiers. The study demonstrates the utility of bibliometric methods in uncovering scholarly trends, guiding future inquiry, and bridging gaps between research, policy, and practice. By identifying key contributors, geographic disparities, and thematic clusters such as social entrepreneurship, digital innovation, and vocational rehabilitation, the analysis underscores the transformative potential of disability entrepreneurship as a vehicle for economic inclusion and social equity.

The findings underscore the need for sustained interdisciplinary collaboration to translate theoretical insights into actionable solutions, particularly through the development of inclusive policy frameworks, accessible financing mechanisms, and technology-driven entrepreneurship ecosystems. As global economies prioritize inclusivity, ongoing bibliometric assessments will remain vital for tracking progress, evaluating the efficacy of policies, and ensuring that research remains responsive to the lived experiences of people with disabilities, including entrepreneurs. Future scholarship must address underexplored areas, including intersectional identities, longitudinal outcomes, and regional disparities, while integrating mixed methods approaches to capture nuanced socio-economic dynamics.

This study provides a rigorous, evidence-based foundation for advancing disability entrepreneurship as a mainstream research domain. It reaffirms the imperative for academic institutions, policymakers, and practitioners to co-create ecosystems that empower people with disabilities, ultimately fostering equitable participation in the global economy.



Continued bibliometric vigilance will be essential to sustain momentum, measure impact, and uphold the United Nations' vision of inclusive development for all.

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Ethical Approval

This research did not involve any direct engagement with human subjects or sensitive personal data; therefore, ethical approval was not applicable.

Consent To Participate

Not applicable, as the study did not include any human participants.

Consent To Publish

Not applicable. No identifiable personal data or participant information was included in the study.

Competing Interests

The authors declare that there are no conflicts of interest associated with this publication.

Declaration Of Generative Ai and Ai-Assisted Technologies

During the preparation of this work, the author(s) used ChatGPT in order to do the paraphrasing and some data interpretation. After using this tool/service, the author(s) reviewed and edited the content as needed and take(s) full responsibility for the content of the publication.

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