







## Proposal: RGI emoji sequences for people in wheelchairs and with probing cane


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The following 6 sequences (plus skin tone variants) are proposed as RGI emoji ZWJ sequences, using Unicode 12 draft emoji candidates. These provide single emoji for the combinations of people with wheelchair or probing cane as proposed in [L2/18-080](#), since the draft candidate emoji characters resulting from L2/18-080 included just the wheelchair and probing cane objects, without people. And as noted in L2/18-080, a primary driver for the combinations of people with wheelchair or probing cane as originally proposed is that the main usage of these is expected to be for representation (and primarily self-representation) of individuals with particular classes of accessibility issues; and the images with people were the ones vetted by the outside disability organizations cited in the original proposal. Combining a person with probing cane also helps disambiguate the identity of the probing cane, with might otherwise be difficult to identify especially at smaller sizes.

code sequence	sample image	proposed CLDR name
U+1F469 woman <optional emoji modifier> U+200D zwj U+1F9BC motorized wheelchair		woman in motorized wheelchair
U+1F468 man <optional emoji modifier> U+200D zwj U+1F9BC motorized wheelchair		man in motorized wheelchair
U+1F469 woman <optional emoji modifier> U+200D zwj U+1F9BD manual wheelchair		woman in manual wheelchair
U+1F468 man <optional emoji modifier> U+200D zwj U+1F9BD manual wheelchair		man in manual wheelchair
U+1F469 woman <optional emoji modifier> U+200D zwj U+1F9AF probing cane		woman with probing cane
U+1F468 man <optional emoji modifier> U+200D zwj U+1F9AF probing cane		man with probing cane

### Notes:

- The proposed collation position for all of these is following  U+1F6B6 person walking

## Selection Factors

Most of the selection factors are unchanged from the original proposal [L2/18-080](#), or do not apply to ZWJ sequences. However, some need updating in view of the acceptance of the wheelchair and probing cane objects as draft candidates.

1. Selection factors — Inclusion.

- B. Expected usage level

1. Frequency: The emoji for combinations of people with wheelchairs or probing cane are expected to be *more* frequently used than the emoji for the objects alone; the major interest in the wheelchairs and probing cane is for representation of *people* (primarily self-representation) with the corresponding accessibility issues. See the next section for some frequency data to estimate usage.
    2. Breaking new ground: It might be thought that encoding the wheelchair and probing cane objects provides sufficient emoji coverage of the corresponding accessibility areas. But while these might indicate an *issue*, they do not represent a *person*, which is the goal of the emoji proposed here.

- C. Image distinctiveness: The images for combinations of people with probing cane are *more* distinctive than the image of the cane by itself.

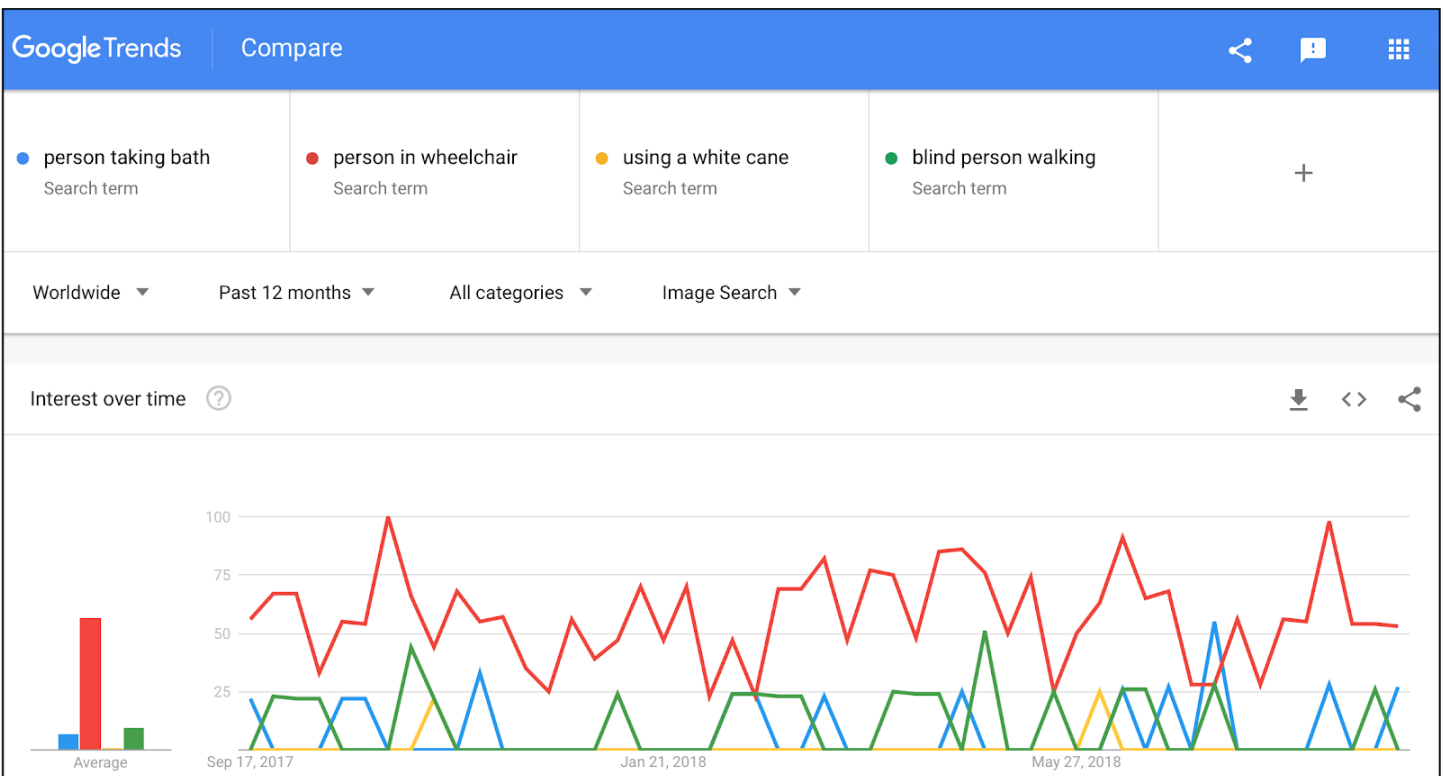
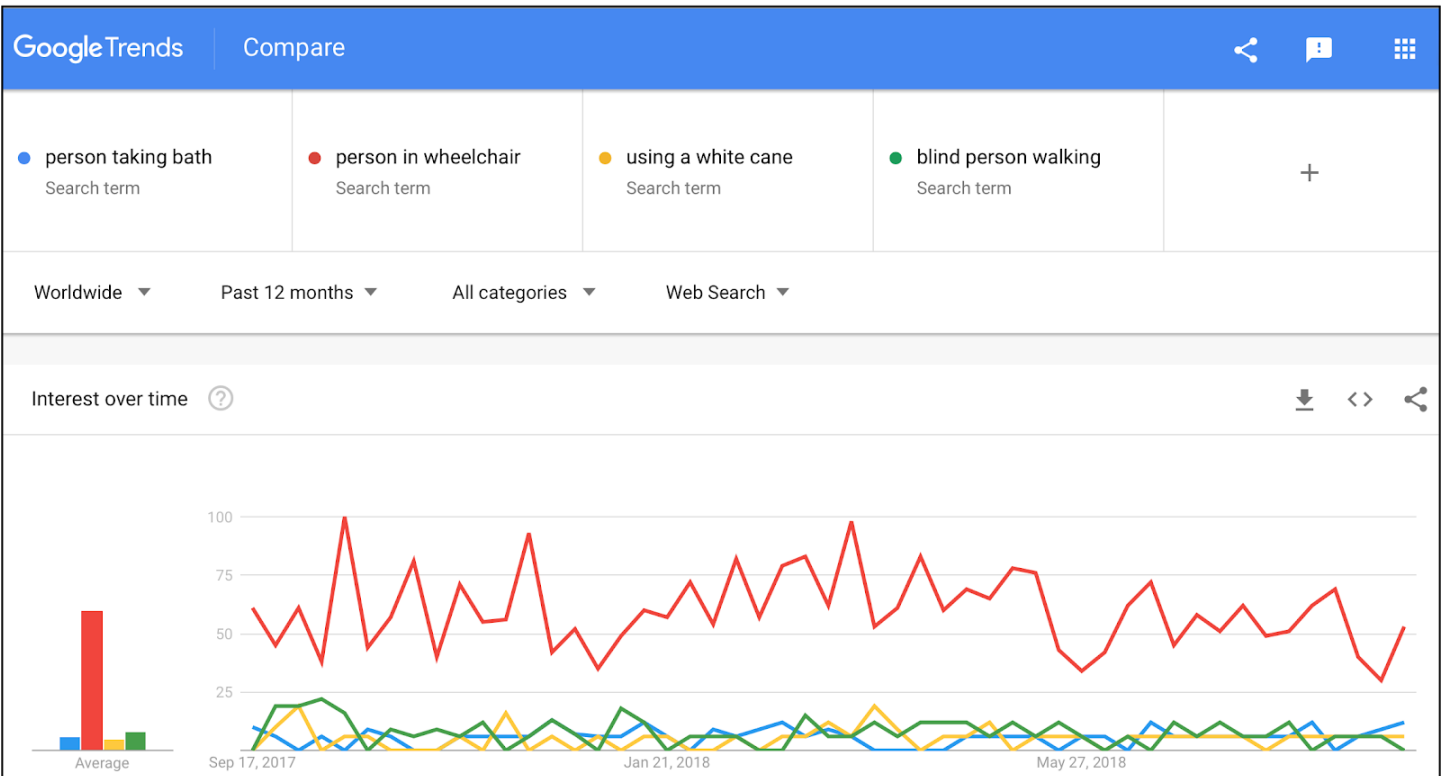
- D. Completeness: the proposed emoji complete the intended set of images for *people* with various accessibility issues.

2. Selection factors — Exclusion.

- C. Already representable: While the wheelchair and probing cane objects can represent classes of accessibility issues, they do not represent *people* with those issues, which was the goal of the original proposal (which was shaped partly by input from various national and international organizations representing the relevant communities).

## Evidence of Frequency

The original proposal [L2/18-080](#) provided some relevant frequency data. In addition, the following GoogleTrends charts for web, image and YouTube search compare the phrase *person taking bath* (for a reference emoji in the person-role or person activity category, with usage somewhat above the median) to the phrases *person in wheelchair*, *using a white cane*, and *blind person walking*:



● person taking bath  
Search term

● person in wheelchair  
Search term

● using a white cane  
Search term

● blind person walking  
Search term

+

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