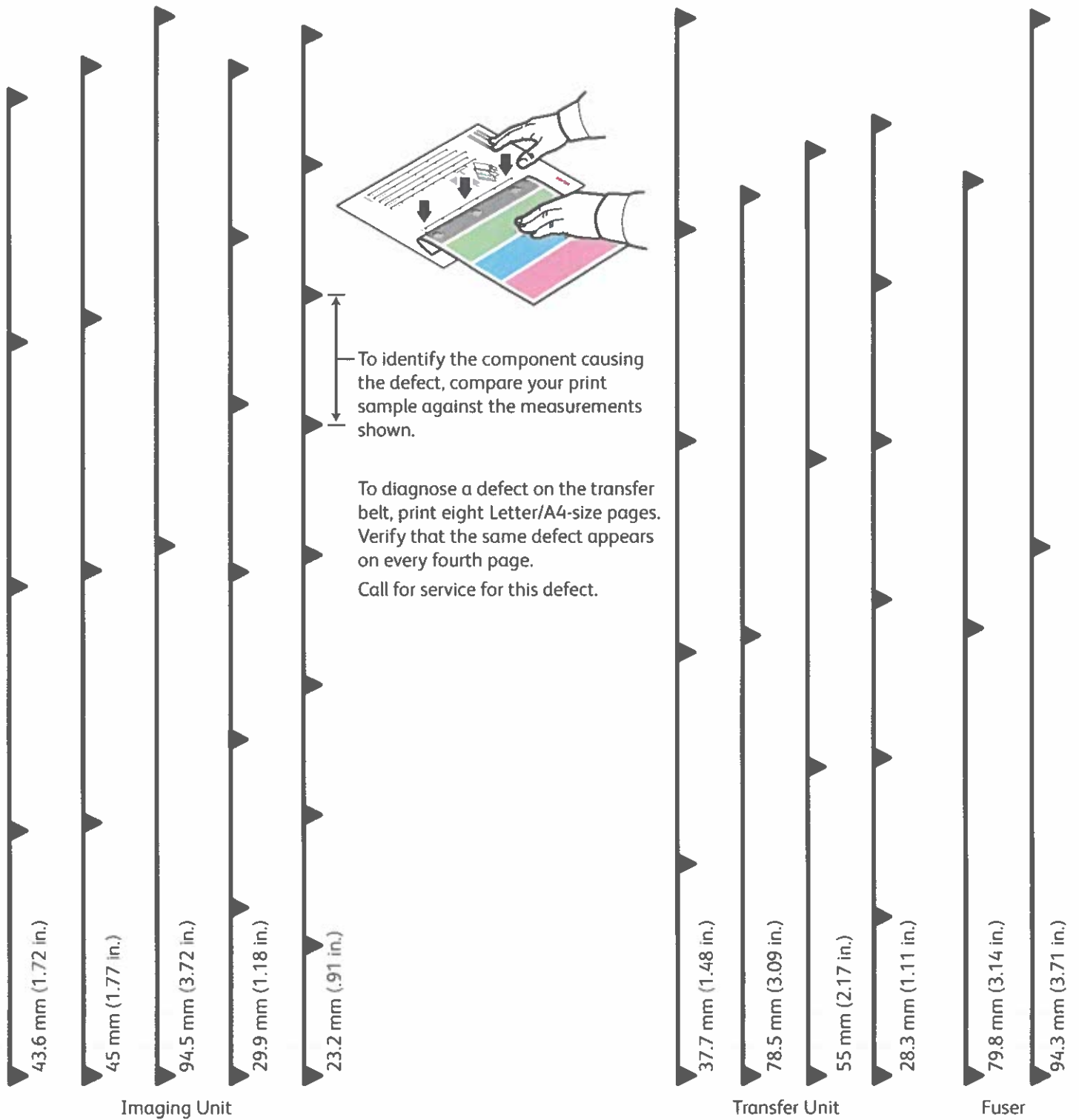


# Repeating Defects







the 1990s, the number of people with a disability in the United States has increased by 25% (U.S. Census Bureau 2000).

As the number of people with disabilities increases, the need for accessible information and services also increases. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 (P.L. 101-504) is the first federal law that prohibits discrimination against people with disabilities in all areas of public life, including jobs, state and local government services, public accommodations, and telecommunications. The ADA is a landmark civil rights law that guarantees the rights of people with disabilities to full and equal participation in all aspects of society.

The ADA requires that information and services be accessible to people with disabilities. This means that information and services must be available in a format that can be accessed by people with disabilities. For example, if a person is blind, the information must be available in a format that can be accessed by a person with a visual impairment, such as Braille or large print.

The ADA also requires that information and services be provided in a timely manner. This means that information and services must be available when a person needs them. For example, if a person is in a wheelchair, the information must be available in a format that can be accessed by a person in a wheelchair, such as a wheelchair-accessible computer terminal.

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