



NeuRA

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SCHIZOPHRENIA Factsheet

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What is social economic status (SES)?

SES is an economic and sociological measure of a person's work experience and of an individual's or families' economic and social position relative to others. Any associations found between socioeconomic status and risk for schizophrenia has been largely inconsistent. There are many factors related to socioeconomic status which may have influence on any associations observed such as urban living, stressful life events, and migrant status. There is also a possibility that people with schizophrenia, particularly if unable to work, experience lower SES status than the general population.

What is the evidence for SES and risk for schizophrenia?

Moderate quality evidence finds a small increase in the incidence (new cases) of schizophrenia in countries with increased national income inequality. Moderate to low quality evidence finds an association between neighbourhood-level socioeconomic deprivation and increased incidence of psychotic disorders in general. There is also a small increase in the prevalence (all cases) of subclinical psychotic symptoms in people with low income or poor education, and in unemployed people.

Moderate to low quality evidence finds lower prevalence rates of schizophrenia in least developed countries compared to emerging and developed countries, with no differences in incidence rates. Authors suggest that the course of schizophrenia may be less favourable in developed nations.

For more information see the technical table

HOW YOUR SUPPORT HELPS

We are able to make significant advances due to the generosity of countless people. Your donation allows us to continue to work towards transforming lives. For information on how you can support our research, phone **1300 888 019** or make a secure donation at neura.edu.au/donate/schizophrenia.



NeuRA

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NeuRA (Neuroscience Research Australia) is one of the largest independent medical and clinical research institutes in Australia and an international leader in neurological research.

Diseases of the brain and nervous system pose the greatest health, economic and social burden of any disease group because they are chronic, debilitating and have no known cures.

Medical research is the cornerstone of efforts to advance the health and wellbeing of families and the community. Our dedicated scientists are focussed on transforming their research into significant and practical benefits for all patients.

While we hope you find this information useful, it is always important to discuss any questions about schizophrenia or its treatment with your doctor or other health care provider.