



NeuRA

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SCHIZOPHRENIA Factsheet

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What is prevalence?

Prevalence measures the proportion of individuals who have a disorder at a particular point in time (point prevalence) or during a specified period (annual prevalence, lifetime prevalence), and this may vary across regions. It is distinct from incidence, which refers to how many new cases there are per population in a specified time period.

What is the prevalence of schizophrenia in forensic settings?

Moderate to high quality evidence suggests the overall prevalence of any psychotic disorder in prisoners is around 3.6%. There were higher prevalence rates in low- to middle-income countries (5.5-6.2%) than in high-income countries (3.5%). The rate of any non-affective psychotic disorder was 15.8 times higher in prisoners in low and middle-income countries than in the general population.

Moderate to high quality evidence finds the prevalence of schizophrenia or other psychotic disorders in older prisoners (> 50 years) is around 5.5%, from studies conducted in the USA, UK, and France.

Among adolescents in juvenile forensic settings in western countries, high quality evidence finds the prevalence rate of any psychotic disorder is around 3.3% for males and 2.7% for females.

Among offenders on probation, moderate to low quality evidence finds the prevalence of schizophrenia ranges between 1.7% and 30%.

For more information see the technical table



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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.

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.