

SCHIZOPHRENIA Factsheet

April 2022

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. Lifetime prevalence is the number of individuals in a population that at some point in their life have experienced schizophrenia compared to the total number of individuals.

What is the evidence regarding sex differences in prevalence rates of schizophrenia?

Moderate quality evidence found no differences between males and females in the overall prevalence of schizophrenia. Moderate to high quality evidence also found the prevalence of any psychotic disorder was similar in male and female adolescents in juvenile detention (2.7% vs. 2.9%).

Moderate quality evidence found similar prevalence rates of schizophrenia in homeless males and females in St Louis and Madrid. However, there were higher prevalence rates of schizophrenia in homeless women than in homeless men in Melbourne, Munich, Baltimore, and Philadelphia.

Please also see the table on incidence rates in males and females.

For more information see the technical table



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.