



# NeuRA

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SCHIZOPHRENIA LIBRARY

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## SCHIZOPHRENIA Factsheet

April 2022

### What is prevalence?

Prevalence quantifies the proportion of individuals in a population who have a disease during a specific time period, while incidence refers to the number of new cases of disease that develop in a population during a specific time period. In disorders of short duration, incidence and prevalence rates may be similar, however with disorders of long duration such as with schizophrenia there can be variation between the two. Point prevalence is the proportion of individuals who manifest a disorder at a given point in time, period measures the proportion of individuals who manifest a disorder during a specified period (e.g., one year), lifetime is the proportion of individuals in the population who have ever manifested a disorder who are alive on a given day and lifetime morbid risk also includes those deceased at the time of the assessment.

### What is the worldwide prevalence of schizophrenia?

Moderate to high quality evidence suggests worldwide prevalence for any non-affective psychotic disorder, including schizophrenia, was 0.40% for one year prevalence and 0.75% for lifetime prevalence. For schizophrenia specifically, point prevalence was around 0.42%, one year prevalence was around 0.30%, lifetime prevalence around 0.50%, and lifetime morbid risk prevalence around 0.72%. Lifetime prevalence rates were higher in cohort studies than in cross-sectional studies, higher in studies from Europe than in studies from North America, higher in more recent studies than in older studies, and higher in lower quality studies than in higher quality studies. These variances in lifetime prevalence rates were similar for one year prevalence rates, apart from North American studies finding higher one year prevalence rates than European studies. High quality evidence suggests the worldwide, age-standardised point prevalence in 2016 was 0.28%. This rate was similar in males and females, across regions, and over time (1990 to 2016), although the number of cases increased over time (13 million to 21 million) due to population growth.

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 enefits 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](https://neura.edu.au/donate).

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