

# INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

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## POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER Factsheet

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### What is prevalence?

Prevalence represents the overall proportion of individuals in a population who have the disorder of interest. It is different from incidence, which represents only the new cases that have developed over a particular time period. Point prevalence is the proportion of individuals in a population who have the disorder at a given point in time (e.g., at one-month post-trauma), while period prevalence is the proportion of individuals in a population who have the disorder over specific time periods (e.g., one to two months post-trauma). Lifetime prevalence is the proportion of individuals in a population who have ever had the disorder and lifetime morbid risk also includes those who had the disorder but were deceased at the time of the survey.

### What is the evidence for the prevalence of PTSD in indigenous people?

High quality evidence finds the 12-month to lifetime prevalence of PTSD in American indigenous people is 7.66%, which is 1.47 times higher than in the general population.

Moderate quality evidence finds the current prevalence of PTSD in incarcerated indigenous females is 40.7% and is 14.2% in incarcerated indigenous males. The one-year prevalence rates range from 32.3% to 49.2% for incarcerated indigenous females and 12.1% to 19.5% for incarcerated indigenous males. The lifetime prevalence rate of PTSD in indigenous people living in the community is 55.2%.

No systematic reviews were identified or met inclusion criteria that assessed prevalence rates of PTSD in other indigenous groups.

For more information see the technical table

### HOW YOUR SUPPORT HELPS

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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 PTSD and its treatment with your doctor or other health care provider.*