



NeuRA

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POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER LIBRARY



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POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER Factsheet

August 2021

What is prevalence?

This topic presents the evidence for the prevalence of PTSD in people exposed to abuse and violence. Prevalence represents the overall proportion of individuals in a population who have PTSD. 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 people exposed to abuse and violence?

Moderate to low quality finds the point prevalence of PTSD in people exposed to any violence is between 11.0% and 60.9% at one month post-exposure. By three months, point prevalence is between 5.8% and 30.4%, by six months it is between 1.9% and 23.9%, and by 12 months it is between 16.3% and 27.1%.

The prevalence of PTSD in people exposed to human trafficking is around 32%, and the prevalence of PTSD in children and adolescents in the welfare system is 4%. Many, but not all of the child welfare sample were exposed to abuse or violence, so this prevalence rate is diluted.

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



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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.