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POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER LIBRARY

POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER Factsheet

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What is prevalence?

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. This topic presents the evidence for the prevalence of PTSD in males vs. females. Please also see the topics on sex differences in incidence rates and sex differences on risk for PTSD.

What is the evidence for prevalence rates in males compared to females?

Moderate to high quality evidence found lifetime prevalence rates of PTSD are nearly twice as high for women than for men (measured at 65 years of age). The prevalence of PTSD in adolescents in detention centres was higher in females than in males (18.2% vs. 8.6%). The prevalence of PTSD following road traffic accidents was higher in females than in males (28% vs. 20%). The prevalence of PTSD following road traffic accidents was also higher in female than male children and adolescents (34% vs. 22%).

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.