

Women's Health Survey 2020 Snapshot

Our sixth annual national Women's Health Survey reveals the health needs and behaviours of women across the country, as they share their experiences of the past 12 months. From 9361 responses, an analysis of 6218 was made, taking into account complete data and 'weighting' to deliver more nationally representative results. Here are some highlights.

Health Needs & Health Information

39.1% could not afford healthcare when they needed it.

(One in three respondents who identified as women with a disability).

27.6% (1 in 4 women aged 18-24) did not know where to go to access health services.

31.7% of women aged 25-44 did not have enough time to attend health check appointments.

One in four (24.1%) could not get an appointment when they needed one.

31.1% of women in rural & remote regions could not get medical appointments when they needed one.

Physical & Mental Health

In the two weeks prior to taking the survey,

33.2% (1 in 3 women) reported feeling anxious.

One in four reported feeling depressed (28.7%). In women aged 18-24, one in two reported feeling anxious (55.2%), two in five reported feeling depressed (41.9%) and one out of three (36.8%) reported feeling both.

49.2% of women with a disability said their health was poor or very poor,

compared to 10.5% of those with no disability.

40.2% (2 in 5 women) considered themselves a healthy weight

43.7% considered themselves overweight and 12.4% obese.

Reproductive & Maternal Health

60% of women who had miscarriages or stillbirths said they did not receive enough information and support;

this rose to two thirds of women in rural and remote areas (63.9%) and was even higher for women with a disability (69.7%).

25.7% 1 in 4 women who had ever been pregnant had experienced a termination of pregnancy.

35.6% (1 in 3 women aged 25-44) said they would consider freezing their eggs to attempt to have children later in life.

Just 1% of women in this age group had already frozen eggs.

Intimate Partner Violence

Of women in a relationship or in contact with an ex-partner in the past 12 months **one in four (23.9%) had experienced some forms of intimate partner violence (IPV).**

19.5% of women experienced emotional abuse.

11.1% (1 in 10 women) reported having a controlling partner

The figure was higher among women with a disability (18.9%) and those reporting a worse financial situation than before COVID-19 (15.3%).

Physical (4.3%) and sexual violence (5.5%)

was highest among women aged 18-24.

Impact of COVID-19 & Bushfires

33.6% reported that their health was worse than before COVID-19.

Drinking more alcohol since COVID-19 was highest among women aged 25-44 (24.4%). Drinking less alcohol since COVID-19 was highest among women aged 18-24 (25.8%).

20.4% (1 in 5 women) reported feeling physically affected by bushfire smoke.

4.3% of women reported that their home, or that of a close family member or friend, was damaged or destroyed by bushfire.

Full survey results will be available on the Jean Hailes website after the embargo lifts at 12.01am, 8 December 2020. For media enquiries, please email media@jeanhailes.org.au

jeanhailes.org.au

Connect with us

