

## Alcohol, tobacco and other drugs in Australia **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people**



In 2011, tobacco use accounted for 12% of the burden of disease for Indigenous Australians.<sup>[1]</sup>

Indigenous Australians aged 14+ were slightly **more likely to abstain from drinking alcohol** than non-Indigenous in 2019.<sup>[2]</sup>



In 2019–20, 17% of clients of **alcohol and other drug treatment services** aged 10 and over were Indigenous Australians.<sup>[3]</sup> 44% of **Indigenous mothers** reported **smoking** at some time during pregnancy in 2019, down from 50% in 2009.<sup>[4]</sup>

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## In the last 12 months in 2019:

- 1. 1 in 10 Indigenous Australians consumed 11 or more standard drinks at least once a month
- 2. Almost 1 in 4 used any illicit drug
- 3.16% used cannabis
- 4. 7% used a pharmaceutical for nonmedical use
- 5. 2.9% used meth/amphetamines.<sup>[2]</sup>

In 2014–15, of **Indigenous Australians** with a mental health condition:

1. Almost 1 in 2 were daily smokers

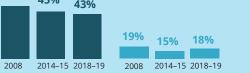
is a person aged 18 or older.<sup>[2]</sup>

AIHW. Viewed 16 July 2021.

Canberra: AIHW. Viewed 16 July 2020.

2. About 2 in 5 have **used substances**.<sup>[5]</sup>

Indigenous **smoking** and lifetime risky drinking<sup>[5][7]</sup>



**Smoking rates** for Indigenous Australians aged 18+ in **non-remote areas declined** from 55% in 1994 to 40% in 2018–19 and **rose slightly for those in remote areas** (54% in 1994 to 59% in 2018–19).<sup>[6] [7]</sup>





National Drug Strategy Household Survey findings relate to people aged 14 or older unless specified. An adult 4. AIHW 2021. Australia's mothers and babies. Cat. no. PER 101. Canberra: AIHW. Viewed 28 June 2021.

- 5. ABS (Australian Bureau of Statistics) 2016. National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey, 2014–15. ABS cat. no. 4714.0. Canberra: ABS. Viewed 14 December 2017.
- 6. ABS 2017. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples: Smoking Trends, Australia, 1994 to 2014–15. ABS cat. no. 4737.0. Canberra: ABS. Viewed 25 October 2017.
- 7. ABS 2019. National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey, 2018-19. ABS cat. no. 4715.0. Canberra: ABS. Viewed 8 January 2020.

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Study series no.6. Cat. no. BOD 7. Canberra: AIHW. Viewed 11 October 2017.

1. AIHW (Australian Institute of Health and Welfare) 2016. Australian Burden of Disease Study: Impact and

causes of illness and death in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People. Australian Burden of Disease

2. AIHW 2020. National Drug Strategy Household Survey 2019. Drug statistics series no. 32. Cat. no. PHE 270.

3. AIHW 2021. Alcohol and other drug treatment services in Australia 2019–20. Cat. no. HSE 250. Canberra:

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For more detail, see the full report, *Alcohol, tobacco and other drugs in Australia*, which is available from the AIHW website.



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