Mortality inequalities in Australia

Despite relatively high standards of health and health care in Australia, not all Australians fare equally well in their health and longevity. Substantial mortality inequalities exist in the Australian population, for overall mortality, and for most leading causes of death, and these inequalities are long-standing.

Sex
The death rate for males is 1.5 times as high as the rate for females.

The suicide rate for men aged 25–44 is 3.5 times the rate for women.

Men aged 25–64 die of coronary heart disease at more than 4 times the rate of women.

Women aged 85+ die of dementia and Alzheimer disease at 1.4 times the rate of men.

Remoteness
Death rates are higher among people living in more remote areas.

Socioeconomic disadvantage
Death rates are higher among people living in lower socioeconomic status areas.

Country of birth
Overseas-born Australian residents have lower death rates than those who were born in Australia.

Indigenous Australians
The death rate among Indigenous Australians is nearly twice that of non-Indigenous Australians.