

## Alcohol, tobacco and

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



In 2011, tobacco use accounted for 12% of the burden **of disease** for Indigenous Australians.[1]



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

45%

2008 2014-15 2018-19



2014-15 2018-19

In 2019–20, 17% of clients of alcohol and other drug treatment services aged 10 and over were Indigenous Australians.[3]

reported **smoking** at some time during pregnancy in 2018, down from 52% in 2009.[4]

Indigenous smoking and lifetime

risky drinking [5] [7]



44% of **Indigenous mothers** 



**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).[6] [7]

In the last 12 months in 2019:

1. 1 in 10 Indigenous Australians

drinks at least once a month

3. 16% used cannabis

medical use

2. Almost 1 in 4 used any illicit drug

4. 7% used a pharmaceutical for non-

5. 2.9% used meth/amphetamines.[2]

consumed 11 or more standard



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

- 1. Almost 1 in 2 were daily smokers
- 2. About 2 in 5 have used substances.[5]

National Drug Strategy Household Survey findings relate to people aged 14 or older unless specified. An adult is a person aged 18 or older.[2]

- 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 Study series no.6. Cat. no. BOD 7. Canberra: AIHW. Viewed 11 October 2017.
- 2. AIHW 2020. National Drug Strategy Household Survey 2019. Drug statistics series no. 32. Cat. no. PHE 270. Canberra: AIHW. Viewed 16 July 2020.
- 3. AIHW 2021. Alcohol and other drug treatment services in Australia 2019–20: key findings. Canberra: AIHW. Viewed 14 April 2021.
- 4. AIHW 2020, Australia's mothers and babies 2018: in brief, Perinatal statistics series no. 35, Cat. no. PER 100. Canberra: AIHW. Viewed 29 May 2020.
- 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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For more detail, see the full report, Alcohol, tobacco and other drugs in Australia, which is available from the AIHW website.

