

## ABORIGINAL & TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER WOMEN:

- Are **more likely** than non-Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women to be obese, to be unemployed, to contract cancer, to have carer responsibilities for children other than their own, to receive welfare payments and to have finished school at an early age.<sup>1</sup>
- Are between 5 and **45** times more likely to experience domestic violence, and 16 to **25** times more likely to experience sexual assault than non-Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women. They are also **34** times more likely to be hospitalized due to injury caused by assault<sup>2</sup>
- Have a life expectancy **10 years shorter** than non-Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women.<sup>3</sup>
- Are 2% of the Australian population, yet accounted for **15% of homicides** recorded in 2003.<sup>4</sup>
- Are 3.4 times more likely to **commit suicide** than non-Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women.<sup>5</sup>
- Were imprisoned nationally at a rate **20.8** times higher than that of non-Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women (in 2004), and have experienced an increase in incarceration rates of **18%** in the past year.<sup>6</sup>
- Are 18 times more likely to die due to **alcohol dependence and harmful use** than non-Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women.<sup>7</sup>
- Are 68% more likely to **die of breast cancer** than non-Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women.<sup>8</sup>
- Have **more children** (2.7 babies compared to 1.9 on average), and at a **younger age**, than non-Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women.<sup>9</sup>
- Have babies that are **twice as likely to die** in their first year than those born to non-indigenous women.<sup>10</sup>
- Are **half as likely** to be in the labour force as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men (during the prime working years between 25 and 54).<sup>11</sup>

<sup>1</sup><http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/0/17F05E41BC13F1D0CA2572D8001C1110?OpenDocument>

<sup>2</sup>[http://www.whiteribbon.org.au/uploads/media/updated\\_factsheets\\_Nov\\_13/Factsheet\\_5\\_Facts\\_and\\_figures.pdf](http://www.whiteribbon.org.au/uploads/media/updated_factsheets_Nov_13/Factsheet_5_Facts_and_figures.pdf)

<sup>3</sup>[http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/Publishing.nsf/Content/F766FC3D8A697685CA257BF0001C96E8/\\$File/hpf-2012.pdf](http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/Publishing.nsf/Content/F766FC3D8A697685CA257BF0001C96E8/$File/hpf-2012.pdf)

<sup>4</sup><http://www.agedcare.org.au/publications/resources/fact-sheets/acsa-fact-sheet-1-2008--an-ageing-australia.pdf>

<sup>5</sup>[http://www.whiteribbon.org.au/uploads/media/updated\\_factsheets\\_Nov\\_13/Factsheet\\_5\\_Facts\\_and\\_figures.pdf](http://www.whiteribbon.org.au/uploads/media/updated_factsheets_Nov_13/Factsheet_5_Facts_and_figures.pdf)

<sup>6</sup><http://www.mindframe-media.info/for-media/reporting-suicide/facts-and-stats>

<sup>7</sup><https://www.humanrights.gov.au/publications/social-justice-report-2004-chapter-2-walking-women-addressing-needs-indigenous-women>

<sup>8</sup><http://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/sep/16/jail-rates-indigenous-women-soar-legal-funding-cuts-loom>

<sup>9</sup><http://www.nidac.org.au/images/PDFs/NIDACpublications/AOD-Treatment-report.pdf>

<sup>10</sup>[http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/Publishing.nsf/Content/F766FC3D8A697685CA257BF0001C96E8/\\$File/hpf-2012.pdf](http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/Publishing.nsf/Content/F766FC3D8A697685CA257BF0001C96E8/$File/hpf-2012.pdf)

<sup>11</sup><http://www.healthinonet.edu.au/population-groups/women/reviews/our-review-2013>

<sup>12</sup><http://www.aihw.gov.au/WorkArea/DownloadAsset.aspx?id=10737418955>

<sup>13</sup><http://www.healthinonet.edu.au/uploads/docs/summary-2013.pdf>

<sup>14</sup><http://www.aihw.gov.au/WorkArea/DownloadAsset.aspx?id=10737418955>