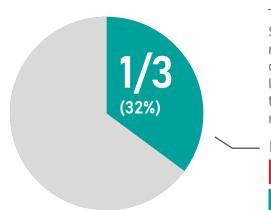
## **Key facts** Gender and disability inequality



Knowledge Skills **Solutions** 

Inequality continues to impact people with disabilities.

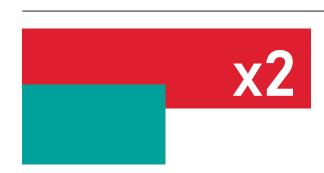


The 2014–15 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey indicates that almost 1 in 3 (32%) Indigenous people aged 15-24 reported living with disability - that is, they indicated that they had a disability or restrictive long-term health condition that involved a limitation, restriction, impairment, disease or disorder that limited their everyday activities. A higher proportion of females (37%) than males (28%) reported having a disability. 17

Indigenous people aged 15-24 reported living with disability

**Females** 

Males



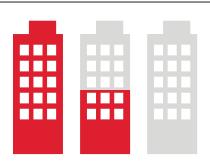
Women and girls with disabilities are twice as likely as women and girls without disabilities to experience violence throughout their lives.18

Research indicates that people with disabilities are more likely to experience abuse in a service setting than people without a disability, with some studies also finding that the largest group of individuals who perpetrate sexual abuse against people with an intellectual disability are staff in services.19

National data shows that people with disabilities are more likely to be victims of crime and experience violence and discrimination than those without. The limited national comparative data suggest rates of crime, violence and discrimination are even higher among LGBTI people with disability. 20

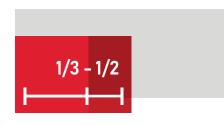


People with disabilities are more likely to live in public housing, compared with other people in the community. In 2014 over 48% of new allocations were to households with a person with disabilities. 21





In Australia, **45%** of people with disabilities live in poverty or near poverty, a situation that has worsened since the mid-1990s.22



Available evidence indicates that people with disabilities from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds have had much lower rates of utilisation of disability services – about half to one-third of the rate of usage that people born in Australia have had.

Australia ranks 21st out of 29 OECD countries for employment of people with disabilities.<sup>23</sup>

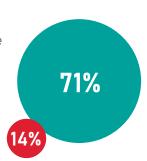




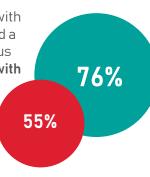
Women with disabilities are more likely to be homeless, sole parents and have less access to education. 24

People with disabilities experienced poorer health outcomes. For instance, a Victorian population health survey of people with an intellectual disability found that: 25

fewer women aged 20-69 years with an intellectual disability were screened for cervical cancer than women in the general population (14% compared with 71%).



fewer women aged 50-69 with an intellectual disability had a mammogram in the previous two years (55% compared with 76% in the general female population aged between 50 and 69).



<sup>17</sup>Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adolescent and youth health and wellbeing report, p. 15.

18 Women With Disabilities Australia, University of New South Wales and People with Disabilities Australia, Stop the Violence: Improving Service Delivery for Women and Girls with disabilities, Sydney, (2013)

19Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission (2014), Beyond doubt: The experiences of people with disabilities reporting crime – Research findings, p. 12.

<sup>20</sup>Leonard, W., Mann, Dr. R., 'The everyday experiences of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) people living with disability', No.111 GLHV@ARCSHS, La Trobe University: Melbourne, p. 5.

<sup>21</sup>Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2015, 'Priority groups', http://www.aihw.gov.au/housing-assistance/haa/2015/priority-groups/

<sup>22</sup>Kavanagh, A., Krnjacki, L.) and Kelly, M., (2012), VicHealth, 'Disability and Hezalth Inequalities in Australia: Research summary'.

<sup>23</sup>Department of Health and Human Services 2016, 'A companion document to a discussion paper of the Victorian state disability plan 2017–2020', State Government of Victoria,

Melbourne, p. 19.

<sup>24</sup>Victorian State Disability Plan 2013-2016.

<sup>25</sup>Department of Health 2011, Victorian population health survey of people with an intellectual disability 2009, Department of Health, Melbourne, cited in Kavanagh, A., Krnjacki, L. & Kelly, M., (2012), VicHealth, 'Disability and Health Inequalities in Australia: Research summary'