

This survey ... provides a picture of the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal adults, aged 15 years and over, living permanently, and temporarily in South Australia from November 2010 to October 2011. The information collected will be used to inform policy and improve health services provided for all Aboriginal South Australians as well as help to inform programs progressing the aims of the Closing the Gap initiatives.

Some of the information has already been used to feed into ongoing programs such as:

- ◆ ‘Ever Felt Like Complaining’ campaign;
- ◆ Tackling Smoking Closing the Gap programs;
- ◆ ‘Give Up Smokes For Good’ campaign;
- ◆ Aboriginal Well Health Checks programs;
- ◆ Road safety for Aboriginal persons;
- ◆ Safe driver’s licensing practices; and
- ◆ Direction for the next survey.

The purpose of this booklet is to highlight the key findings from the chronic conditions data for the overall state.

Should you wish to explore these or other SAAHS data in more depth, please do not hesitate to contact Population Research and Outcome Studies (PROS) (see overleaf). Additionally, the complete report can be viewed on the PROS website by clicking the [2012 South Australian Aboriginal Health Survey](#) link under reports.



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Government
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SA Health

The art work depicts families coming together to share food collected from the bush (Artist: Mark Elliot/Trevorrow, Ngarrindjeri Elder).

South Australian Aboriginal Health Survey

CHRONIC CONDITIONS



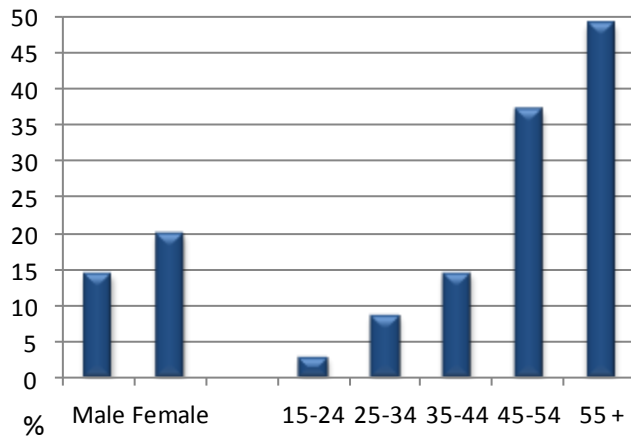
STATE OVERVIEW

Diabetes

Overall, 17.4% of Aboriginal adults in SA have doctor diagnosed diabetes or a 'touch of sugar', however, prevalence of diabetes increases with age.

Those with diabetes are:

- ◆ more likely to be over the age of 45 years (43%); and
- ◆ less likely to be aged 15 to 34 years (5%).



Diabetes, by age and sex

Asthma

Overall, 12% of Aboriginal adults in SA have been told by a doctor that they have asthma, or have experienced symptoms of asthma, or have taken treatment for asthma, in the last 12 months.

Those with current asthma (diagnosed, symptoms, or taking medication) are more likely to be:

- ◆ over the age of 45 years (27%); and
- ◆ female (19%).

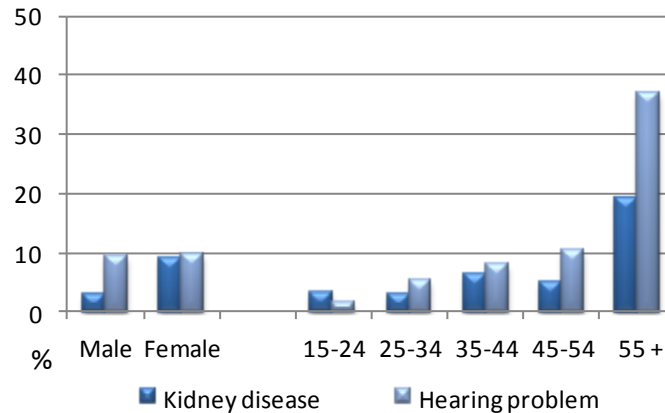
Kidney disease and hearing problem

Overall, 6% of Aboriginal adults in SA have kidney disease and 10% have a hearing problem.

Those with kidney disease are more likely to be:

- ◆ over the age of 55 years (12%); and
- ◆ female (9%).

Those with a hearing problem are more likely to be over the age of 55 years (23%).



Kidney Disease and Hearing problem, by age and sex

High Blood Pressure

Overall, 20% of Aboriginal adults in SA have high blood pressure.

Those with high blood pressure are:

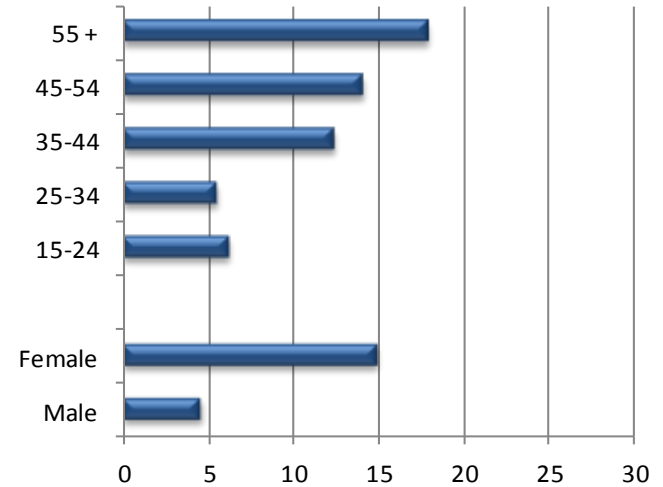
- ◆ more likely to be aged 45 years and over (48%); and
- ◆ less likely to be aged 15 to 34 years (6%).

Mental Health

Overall, 10% of Aboriginal adults in SA have a mental health problem diagnosed by a doctor.

Those with a diagnosed mental health problem were more likely to be:

- ◆ over the age of 45 years (16%); and
- ◆ female (15%).



Mental health problem, by age and sex

Medicine

Overall, 30% of Aboriginal adults in SA are currently taking medication.

Those currently taking medication are more likely to be:

- ◆ Female (40%); and
- ◆ Aged 45 years and over (67%).

Note: All data reported are from the SAAHS 2010/11 for Aboriginal South Australians, 15 years of age and older.