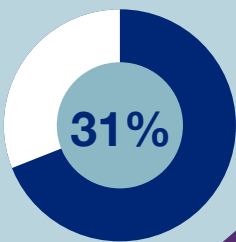


Women in Prison

Women in detention settings often have multiple complex needs, including higher rates of physical and mental health needs, drug or alcohol dependence, poorer access to health services as well as poverty, indebtedness, unemployment, poor education and homelessness

Almost one-third of female offenders have spent time in care as a child



Domestic violence



53% of women in prison have experienced child abuse

Over half the women in prison say they have suffered domestic violence

High rates of post traumatic stress have been reported

Drug use



8/10 have ever taken an illegal drug



6/10 have used class A drugs in the four weeks before custody



5/10 reported committing offences to support someone else's drug use

49% of women had a drug problem on arrival in prison

Suicide among recently released female prisoners is

40x

higher than general population

Impact on families



6/10 have dependent children



2/10 are lone parents before imprisonment



84% are serving a sentence for non-violent crime



Only 5% of children remain in their own homes while their mother is in prison

Sexual health

Women have higher rates than men HIV, Hepatitis C and STIs such as chlamydia infection, gonorrhoea and syphilis



Mental health

5x

Women in prison are **5x more likely** to have mental health concerns than the general female population



65% of women in prison suffer from depression, compared to 37% of men in prison

Prison population



Women prisoners



Males prisoners

Self harm incidents



Women in prison accounted for **23%** of all prison self harm incidents despite representing just **5%** of the prison population

