



**Women's Health Victoria**

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# **Gender Analysis in the Real World**

Applying a gendered approach to  
current health issues

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## **Gender analysis**

- Widely used by many in their work
- Refers to a process that examines the differences in the lives of women and men



## Sex-disaggregated data

- Information that is cross-classified by sex
- For data: <http://www.theindex.org.au/>
- The beginning of the gender analysis

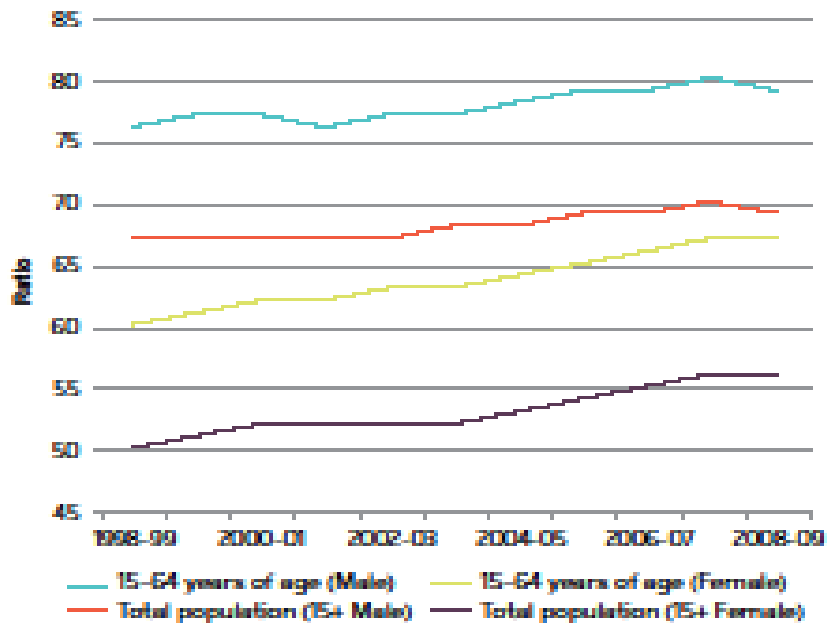


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The employment rate has been increasing, particularly for women

Employment to population ratios, 1998-99 to 2008-09



*The employment rate has been increasing, particularly for women*

*Social Inclusion in Australia:  
How Australia is faring*  
Social Inclusion Board, 2010

Source: ABS, Labour Force Australia, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001, 2009, detailed electronic delivery

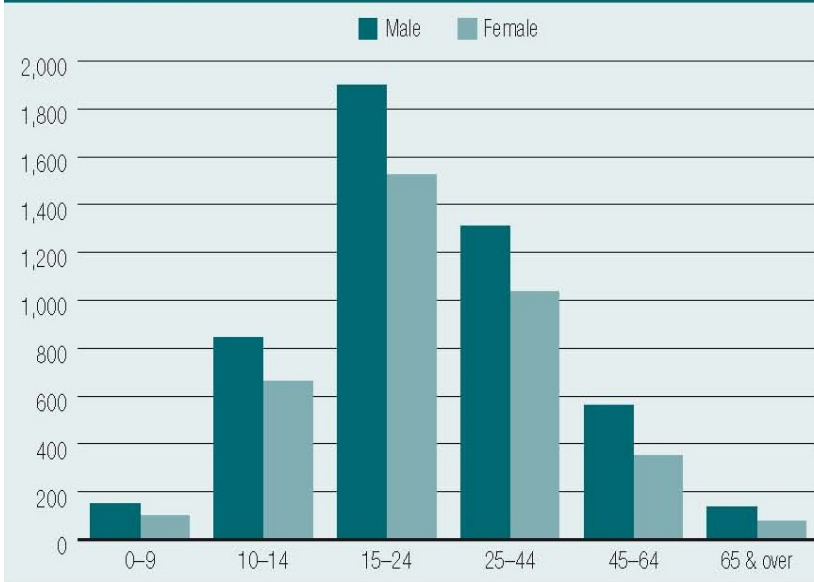


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## Victims of assault

**Figure 15** Assault victims, 2008, by age in years and sex (per 100,000 of that age group and sex)



Note: Excludes Tasmania, Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory (information not available)

- In 2008, 57 percent of recorded assault victims were male.
- Males had higher victimisation rates than females in all age groups.
- As in previous years, both males and females aged between 15 and 24 years had the highest rates of assault.

*Males had higher victimisation rates than females in all age groups*

*Australian Crimes: Facts and Figures*

Australian Institute of Criminology, 2009



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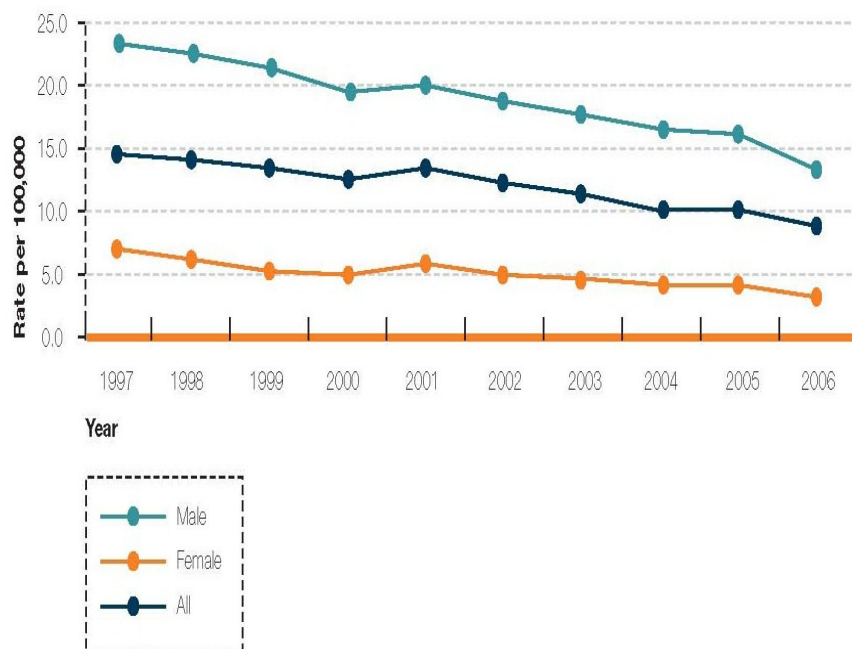
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## Suicide rates by gender

Recent data suggest that suicide rates in Australia have declined since the late 1990s, especially in young people. Figure 2 shows suicide rates from 1997 to 2006. Among males, suicide rates

have dropped since a high in the late 1990s, but rates among females have remained fairly constant, and are consistently around one quarter of the rate for males.

FIGURE 2: Suicide rates, 1997 to 2006.



*Suicide rates have dropped among men. Female suicide rates have remained constant and are around one quarter of the rates of males*

*LIFE Fact Sheet 3*

Department of Health and Ageing, 2007



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## **Prompts for analysing sex-disaggregated data**

- Examine all the relevant details on the issue
- Consider life factors particular to women and men along side the data, source of inequities
- Examine the relationships between gender and other aspects of diversity



## **Gender analysis on employment**

- A higher proportion of women are underemployed, employed on part-time and casual basis
- Traditional female dominated jobs tend to be lower paid
- More women are primary care givers, impacting on time in paid workforce
- Links to discrimination, migration, education level, cultural expectations





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## **Policies and programs on employment**

Based on sex-disaggregated data

- No actions required

Based on Gender analysis

- Pay equity
- Child care, Aged care
- Paid parental leave
- Job share
- Indigenous employment programs



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## **Gender analysis of violence**

- Typical male victim experienced the violence on the street perpetrated by strangers or non-family members
- Typical female victim experienced violence from a family member/partner in the home
- Associated factors - power relations, pregnancy, drought, financial insecurity, disability, age, isolation, discrimination, past abuse and trauma



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## **Policies and programs on violence**

Based on sex-disaggregated data

- Target young men

Based on Gender analysis

- Men - street violence, family violence, mental health
- Women – family violence, mental health
- Social determinants of violence



## **Gender analysis on suicide**

- Women attempt suicide at a higher rate but more men complete suicide
- Stigma - suicide attempts seen as attention seeking, not receiving appropriate help
- Women who have experienced violence are 5 times more likely to attempt suicide
- Same-sex attracted women, Indigenous women



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## **Policies and programs on suicide**

Based on sex-disaggregated data

- Target men

Based on Gender analysis

- Men - mental health
- Women – family violence, mental health
- Indigenous women and same-sex attracted women



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## **Gender analysis**

- Go beyond sex-disaggregated data
- Lead to a more targeted approach
- Redress inequities
- Good practice

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## **Women's Mental Health Networking lunchtime session**

- 12.50-1.50 today
- Location: Chancellor 1
- BYO Food and drink (from the main lunch hall)