

GIPPSLAND *free from* VIOLENCE

GWH

VICTORIA
State
Government

PREVENTION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN FOCUS

FAMILY VIOLENCE STATS

63 AUSTRALIAN WOMEN
WERE MURDERED IN 2022

- **Intimate partner violence** contributes **more to the disease burden than any other risk factor** (e.g., tobacco use, high cholesterol or illicit drug use) in Australian women aged 18-44 years.
- Women often experience **multiple incidents of violence** across their lifetime.
- Partner violence often occurs when women are **pregnant**.
- **Young women (18-24 years)** experience significantly higher rates of physical and sexual violence than women in older age groups.
- **Women with disabilities** in Australia are around **two times more likely** than women without disabilities to have experienced sexual violence and intimate partner violence.
- **1 in 5 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women** aged 15 and over has experienced physical violence in a 12-month period. While the rates of hospitalisation for assault for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people fluctuate, in 2018-2019, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women had **29 times the rate of hospitalisation** for non-fatal family violence assaults when compared with non-Indigenous women.
- **Migrant and refugee women** can be subjected to forms of violence that relate to their uncertain citizenship, where perpetrators threaten them with **deportation or withhold access to passports** and can also be subject to violence from an **extended range of perpetrators**, including in-laws and siblings.
- On average, **more than one woman a week is killed by her intimate partner**.

SEXUAL ASSAULT IN GIPPSLAND

GIPPSLAND WOMEN ARE ABOVE THE STATE AVERAGE FOR **RAPE, INDECENT SEXUAL ASSAULT AND PHYSICAL VIOLENCE**. IN SEVERAL AREAS OF GIPPSLAND, A WOMAN IS **26% MORE LIKELY TO BE RAPED OR SEXUALLY ASSAULTED** THAN IF SHE LIVED IN OTHER AREAS OF VICTORIA.

53%

OF WOMEN HAVE
EXPERIENCED
SEXUAL
HARASSMENT IN
THEIR LIFETIME

**How long
until we
reach gender
equality?**

**136
YEARS**

**The COVID-19
pandemic has
increased this
time from 100
years, according
to the World
Economic Forum's
Global Gender
Gap Report.**

DECEMBER 2022 - DEATHS IN AUSTRALIA

**From November 30, 2022 to
January 3 2023, 16 women were
killed by men across Australia.**

WOMEN IN GIPPSLAND - THE KEY ISSUES

Following the 2022 GWH Regional Roadshow, here is a snapshot of the main issues currently impacting Gippsland women:

- **Family violence / men's violence against women**
- **Lack of access to health services, specialists and practitioners, including maternal services and professionals with an understanding of women's health**
- **Long wait times for GPs and specialists**
- **No mental health support**
- **No safe houses to escape family violence**
- **No understanding of how to assist someone living with / how to escape family violence**
- **Limited health literacy or knowledge**

Keep an eye out for the full GWH Regional Roadshow report to be released in the coming months.

WHAT IS THE GIPPSLAND FREE FROM VIOLENCE (GFFV) PARTNERSHIP?

The GFFV Partnership aims to prevent gender-based violence before it occurs. GFFV is a capacity-building partnership supporting a collaborative approach and structure to gender violence prevention both locally and region wide. It provides a regional framework of partnership that supports all partners - funded or community - to engage in the new GFFV Strategy. This strategy brings all partners together in a collaborative approach regardless of function, funding, resources and state mandate. A regional approach supports prevention activities developed through a common agenda and a shared vision for change. For more information or for GFFV partnership enquiries, please contact **Alex - admin@gwhealth.asn.au**