

# Economic Cost of Incontinence in Australia

In 2023



There were over **7.2 million** people with incontinence in Australia



Women are **2x more** likely than men to have incontinence



This is equivalent to **1 in 3 people over 15 years**



Although there is a higher rate of incontinence if you are older, **71% of people** with incontinence are younger than 65 years

## Incontinence can affect every facet of life



People with incontinence lost an additional **8.8 days** of work per year



The average caregiver provides **more than 5 hours** of care per week to someone with incontinence



**13%** of survey respondents reported seeing a mental health professional for their incontinence with average of 5 visits in the past year



**3%** of people with incontinence are not in employment due to their incontinence

## Incontinence costs government, employers and importantly individuals and their carers

The total economic cost of incontinence was **\$100.4 billion** in 2023



**50%\*** increase from 2010

## This total consist of:

1. Financial costs



**\$2.6b** in health system costs



**\$53.9b** in productivity losses



**\$8.8b** In efficiency losses



**\$1.2b** in other financial costs

2. Lost wellbeing



\*2023 estimates are not directly comparable to 2010 estimates due to inflation and methodological changes.  
Note: Totals may not sum due to rounding