Summary – Key Findings
Burden of Osteoporosis, Osteopenia and Associated Fractures in Tasmania

Poor Bone Health: 2012-2022

- By 2022, it is estimated there will be 155,300 older people in Tasmania with low bone mass, an increase of 25% from 2012.
- 139,000 adults in Tasmania aged 50 years and older (67%) have osteoporosis or osteopenia (poor bone health) in 2017.
- 125,000 adults in Tasmania aged 50 years and older (66%), had osteoporosis or osteopenia (poor bone health) in 2012.
- Among people in Tasmania aged 50 years and older, 15% had osteoporosis and 52% have osteopenia.
- Among people in Tasmania aged 70 years and older, 43% of women and 13% of men had osteoporosis (13,400 women and 3,300 men).

Fracture Impact: 2012-2022

- The total number of fractures over the ten year period 2013 to 2022 is projected to be 42,871.
- In 2022 it is expected there will be a 32% increase in the annual number of fractures (over 10 years) resulting in 4,900 fractures per annum.
- In 2022 there will be 13.4 fractures every day among older adults in Tasmania. Approximately one in six of these fractures will be a hip fracture.
- In 2017 there will be 11.5 fractures every day among older adults in Tasmania.

Cost Impact: 2012-2022

- The total direct costs of fractures over the ten years 2013 to 2022 will be $564 million (2012$). These costs include ambulance services, hospitalisations and emergency and outpatient departments, rehabilitation, limited aged care and community services.
- In 2017 the total direct costs of osteoporosis and osteopenia in Tasmanian adults aged 50 years and over will be $78 million of which $55 million (71%) relates to the treatment of fractures.
- In 2012 the total direct costs of osteoporosis and osteopenia in Tasmania adults aged 50 years and over, were $67.1 million of which $47.4 million (71%) relates to the treatment of fractures.
People in Tasmania over 50 estimated to have osteoporosis or osteopenia in 2022

- 69% of 155,300 people

Number of fractures due to osteoporosis and osteopenia

- 3,700 estimated in 2012
- 4,900 estimated in 2022


- $564 million in total cost over 10 years