

Adult—body mass index

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Adult—body mass index

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Data Element Concept
METEOR identifier:	269556
Registration status:	Health, Standard 01/03/2005 National Health Performance Authority (retired) , Retired 01/07/2016
Definition:	Weight (body mass) relative to height used to assess the extent of weight deficit or excess in adults.
Context:	Public health and health care:

Body Mass Index (BMI) is used as an indicator of underweight, normal or healthy weight and overweight and obesity in adults and overweight and obesity in children and adolescents. On a population basis there is a strong association between BMI and health risk such as coronary heart disease, non-insulin dependant diabetes mellitus and high [blood pressure](#) in adults.

In population based surveys, BMI may be used:

- to indicate the prevalence of thinness and overweight and their sociodemographic distribution (problem identification)
- to evaluate health promotion and disease prevention programs (assessment of interventions)
- to monitor progress towards National public health policy
- to ascertain determinants and consequences of thinness and overweight
- in nutrition and physical activity surveillance and long-term planning.

Object Class attributes

Identifying and definitional attributes

Object class:	Adult
Definition:	An individual aged 18 years or older.
Specialisation of:	Person/group of persons

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation:	Australia Institute of Health and Welfare
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Property attributes

Identifying and definitional attributes

Property:	Body mass index
Definition:	A measure of body fat that gives an indication of nutritional status. Body mass index is the weight in kilograms divided by the square of the height in meters.
Property group:	Physical characteristics

Source and reference attributes

Origin:	Dorland's Illustrated Medical Dictionary 30th ed. Philadelphia: Saunders
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Data element concept attributes

Relational attributes

**Data Elements
implementing this Data
Element Concept:**

[Adult—body mass index \(measured\), ratio NN\[N\].N\[N\]](#)
[Health](#), Standard 01/03/2005

[Adult—body mass index \(self-reported\), ratio NN\[N\].N\[N\]](#)
[Health](#), Standard 01/03/2005

[National Health Performance Authority \(retired\)](#), Retired 01/07/2016