

# Adult—body mass index

<b>Metadata item type:</b>	Data Element Concept
<b>METEOR identifier:</b>	269556
<b>Registration status:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Health</a>, Standard 01/03/2005</li><li>• <a href="#">National Health Performance Authority (retired)</a>, Retired 01/07/2016</li></ul>
<b>Definition:</b>	Weight (body mass) relative to height used to assess the extent of weight deficit or excess in adults.
<b>Context:</b>	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 <a href="#">blood pressure</a> in adults.  In population based surveys, BMI may be used: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• to indicate the prevalence of thinness and overweight and their sociodemographic distribution (problem identification)</li><li>• to evaluate health promotion and disease prevention programs (assessment of interventions)</li><li>• to monitor progress towards National public health policy</li><li>• to ascertain determinants and consequences of thinness and overweight</li><li>• in nutrition and physical activity surveillance and long-term planning.</li></ul>

## Object Class attributes

### Identifying and definitional attributes

<b>Object class:</b>	<a href="#">Adult</a>
<b>Definition:</b>	An individual aged 18 years or older.
<b>Specialisation of:</b>	<a href="#">Person/group of persons</a>

### Source and reference attributes

<b>Submitting organisation:</b>	Australia Institute of Health and Welfare
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## Property attributes

### Identifying and definitional attributes

<b>Property:</b>	<a href="#">Body mass index</a>
<b>Definition:</b>	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.
<b>Property group:</b>	<a href="#">Physical characteristics</a>

### Source and reference attributes

<b>Origin:</b>	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

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