Adult—body mass index



© Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2024

This product, excluding the AlHW logo, Commonwealth Coat of Arms and any material owned by a third party or protected by a trademark, has been released under a Creative Commons BY 4.0 (CC BY 4.0) licence. Excluded material owned by third parties may include, for example, design and layout, images obtained under licence from third parties and signatures. We have made all reasonable efforts to identify and label material owned by third parties.

You may distribute, remix and build on this website's material but must attribute the AlHW as the copyright holder, in line with our attribution policy. The full terms and conditions of this licence are available at https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/.

Enquiries relating to copyright should be addressed to info@aihw.gov.au.

Enquiries or comments on the METEOR metadata or download should be directed to the METEOR team at meteor@aihw.gov.au.

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
METEOR identifier: 269001

Registration status: Health, Standard 01/03/2005

National Health Performance Authority (retired), Retired 01/07/2016

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

Property attributes

Identifying and definitional attributes

Property: Body mass index

METEOR identifier: 269114

Registration status: Health, Standard 01/03/2005

Indigenous, Standard 13/03/2015

National Health Performance Authority (retired), Retired 01/07/2016

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

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