Adult—body mass index

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# Adult—body mass index

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| Identifying and definitional attributes |
| Metadata item type: | Data Element Concept |
| METEOR identifier: | 269556 |
| Registration status: | [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 01/03/2005[National Health Performance Authority (retired)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/8), 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**](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/327210) 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.
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## Object Class attributes

### Identifying and definitional attributes

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| Object class: | [Adult](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/269001) |
| Definition: | An individual aged 18 years or older. |
| Specialisation of: | [Person/group of persons](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/281123) |
| Source and reference attributes |
| Submitting organisation: | Australia Institute of Health and Welfare |

## Property attributes

### Identifying and definitional attributes

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| Property: | [Body mass index](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/269114) |
| 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](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/274658) |
| Source and reference attributes |
| Origin: | Dorland's Illustrated Medical Dictionary 30th ed. Philadelphia: Saunders |

## Data element concept attributes

### Relational attributes

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| --- | --- |
| Data Elements implementing this Data Element Concept: | [Adult—body mass index (measured), ratio NN[N].N[N]](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/270084)       [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 01/03/2005[Adult—body mass index (self-reported), ratio NN[N].N[N]](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/270086)       [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 01/03/2005       [National Health Performance Authority (retired)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/8), Retired 01/07/2016 |