

Person—tobacco smoking start age, total years N[NN]

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Person—tobacco smoking start age, total years N[NN]

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Data Element
Short name:	Tobacco smoking start age
METEOR identifier:	376322
Registration status:	Health , Standard 19/11/2015
Definition:	The age in years at which a person first smoked a full cigarette.
Context:	Public health and health care
Data Element Concept:	Person—tobacco smoking start age
Value Domain:	Total years N[NN]

Value domain attributes

Representational attributes

Representation class:	Total	
Data type:	Number	
Format:	N[NN]	
Maximum character length:	3	
	Value	Meaning
Supplementary values:	999	Unknown/not stated
Unit of measure:	Year	

Data element attributes

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use:	Record age in completed years.
Collection methods:	The recommended standard for collecting this information is the Standard Questions on the Use of Tobacco Among Adults (1998) - interviewer administered (Question 7) and self-administered (Question 4) versions. The questions cover persons aged 18 years and over.
Comments:	<p>Start-age may be used to derive duration of smoking, which is a much stronger predictor of the risks associated with smoking than is the total amount of tobacco smoked over time.</p> <p>Where the information is collected by survey and the sample permits, population estimates should be presented by sex and age groups. The recommended age groups are: <10, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20-24, 25-29 and 30. Summary statistics may need to be adjusted for age and other relevant variables.</p> <p>It is recommended that in surveys of smoking, data on age, sex and other socio-demographic variables should be collected. It is also recommended that when smoking is investigated in relation to health, data on other risk factors including pregnancy status, physical activity, overweight and obesity, and alcohol consumption should be collected.</p>

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Relational attributes

Related metadata references: Supersedes [Person—tobacco smoking start age \(daily smoking\), total years NN Health](#), Superseded 19/11/2015

Supersedes [Person—tobacco smoking start age, total years N\[NN\] Health](#), Superseded 19/11/2015

Implementation in Data Set Specifications: [Prison dischargée smoking status cluster Health](#), Superseded 28/04/2016

Conditional obligation: Conditional on a yes response to [Person - ever smoked a full cigarette indicator, yes/no/not stated/inadequately described code N](#).

[Prison entrant smoking status cluster Health](#), Qualified 06/07/2023

Conditional obligation:

Conditional on the person indicating that they have ever smoked a full cigarette.

DSS specific information:

In the Prisoner Health NBEDS 'tobacco smoking start age' refers to the age at which a person smoked their first full cigarette.

This data element is included in the Prisoner Health NBEDS as the National Prisoner Health Indicators includes the indicator: Mean age at which prison entrants smoked their first full cigarette.

[Prison entrant smoking status cluster Health](#), Qualified 06/07/2023

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[Smoking status cluster Health](#), Standard 28/04/2016

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