

Person—tobacco smoking status, code NN

Exported from METEOR (AIHW's Metadata Online Registry)

© Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2024

This product, excluding the AIHW 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 AIHW 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.

Person—tobacco smoking status, code NN

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Data Element
Short name:	Tobacco smoking status code NN
METEOR identifier:	588811
Registration status:	Health , Retired 25/01/2018 Indigenous , Retired 25/01/2018
Definition:	A person's current and past smoking behaviour, as represented by a code.
Context:	Public health and health care
Data Element Concept:	Person—tobacco smoking status
Value Domain:	Tobacco smoking status code NN

Value domain attributes

Representational attributes

Representation class:	Code
Data type:	Number
Format:	NN
Maximum character length:	1

	Value	Meaning
Permissible values:	10	Daily smoker
	20	Weekly smoker
	30	Irregular smoker
	41	Ex-smoker less than or equal to 12 months
	42	Ex-smoker greater than 12 months
	50	Never smoked

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use:

CODE 10 Daily smoker

A person who smokes daily

CODE 20 Weekly smoker

A person who smokes at least weekly but not daily

CODE 30 Irregular smoker

A person who smokes less than weekly

CODE 41 Ex-smoker for less than or equal to 12 months

A person who does not smoke at all now, but has smoked at least 100 cigarettes or a similar amount of other tobacco products in his/her lifetime. Smoking cessation began 12 months previously or less.

CODE 42 Ex-smoker for more than 12 months

A person who does not smoke at all now, but has smoked at least 100 cigarettes or a similar amount of other tobacco products in his/her lifetime. Smoking cessation began more than 12 months previously.

CODE 50

Never-smoker

A person who does not smoke now and has smoked fewer than 100 cigarettes or similar amount of other tobacco products in his/her lifetime.

Source and reference attributes

Reference documents: Standard Questions on the Use of Tobacco Among Adults (1998)

Data element attributes

Collection and usage attributes

Collection methods: The recommended standard for collecting this information is based on the Standard Questions on the Use of Tobacco Among Adults - interviewer administered (Questions 1 and 4) and self-administered (Questions 1 and 1a) versions. The questionnaires are designed to cover persons aged 18 years and over. There is one variation to this standard. Ex-smokers are divided into those who have been ex-smokers for less than or equal to 12 months, and those who have been ex-smokers for more than 12 months.

Comments:

There are two other ways of categorising this information:

- Regular and irregular smokers where a regular smoker includes someone who is a daily smoker or a weekly smoker. 'Regular' smoker is the preferred category to be reported in prevalence estimates.
 - Daily and occasional smokers where an occasional smoker includes someone who is a weekly or irregular smoker. The category of 'occasional' smoker can be used when the aim of the study is to draw contrast between daily smokers and other smokers.
- Where this information is collected by survey and the sample permits, population estimates should be presented by sex and 5-year age groups. Summary statistics may need to be adjusted for age and other relevant variables.

Smoker type is used to define subpopulations of adults (age 18+ years) based on their smoking behaviour.

Smoking has long been known as a health risk factor. Population studies indicate a relationship between smoking and increased mortality/morbidity.

This data element can be used to estimate smoking prevalence. Other uses are:

- To evaluate health promotion and disease prevention programs (assessment of interventions)
- To monitor health risk factors and progress towards National Health Goals and Targets


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.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Relational attributes

Related metadata references:

Is re-engineered from  [Tobacco smoking status, version 1, DE, NHDD, NHMG, Superseded 01/03/2005.pdf](#) (18.5 KB)
No registration status

See also [Person—tobacco smoking status, code N Health, Standard 01/03/2005](#)
[Indigenous, Standard 13/03/2015](#)

Implementation in Data Set Specifications: [Indigenous primary health care DSS 2015-17 Health, Superseded 25/01/2018](#)
[Indigenous, Superseded 27/02/2018](#)

Implementation start date: 01/07/2015

Implementation end date: 30/06/2017

Conditional obligation:

Reporting of this data element is conditional on a 'yes' answer to 'Person—smoking status recorded indicator, yes/no code N'.

**Implementation in
Indicators:**

Used as Numerator

[Indigenous primary health care: PI20a-Number of regular clients who have had the necessary risk factors assessed to enable CVD assessment, 2015](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 05/10/2016

[Indigenous](#), Superseded 20/01/2017

[Indigenous primary health care: PI20a-Number of regular clients who have had the necessary risk factors assessed to enable CVD assessment, 2015-2017](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 25/01/2018

[Indigenous](#), Superseded 27/02/2018

[Indigenous primary health care: PI20b-Proportion of regular clients who have had the necessary risk factors assessed to enable CVD assessment, 2015](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 05/10/2016

[Indigenous](#), Superseded 20/01/2017

[Indigenous primary health care: PI20b-Proportion of regular clients who have had the necessary risk factors assessed to enable CVD assessment, 2015-2017](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 25/01/2018

[Indigenous](#), Superseded 27/02/2018