



Tobacco and e-cigarettes

Alcohol, tobacco and other drugs in Australia

Tobacco is the **leading cause of preventable burden** in Australia; **8.6%** of the total burden of disease and injury in 2018.^[1]



Daily smokers aged 14+ in 2022–2023.^[2]

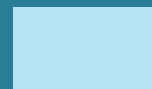


13.5% of secondary school students had ever tried smoking in 2022–2023 compared to 17.5% in 2017.^[6]



There has been an **increase** in the proportion of adults who **never take up smoking**.^[2]

49%



1991

65%



2022–2023

People in their **40s and 50s** were the most likely to **smoke daily**.^[2]

People aged 40+ were more likely to smoke **20+ cigarettes per day** than those under 40.^[2]



Women were more likely than men to have **never smoked** in 2020–21.^[3]

55%



67%



Nicotine was the **principal drug of concern** in 1.1% of treatment episodes in 2022–23.^[8]



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The **estimated social cost** for tobacco use in 2015-16 was:



\$136.7 billion [9]

In 2022-2023, the **average age** that people aged over 14 years smoked their **first full cigarette** was **16.6 years**. [2]

In 2017, **volume** of tobacco products sold **decreased** while value of **retail sales increased**. [5]



Almost **1 in 2 current smokers** aged 14 and over in 2022-2023 had used **e-cigarettes** in their lifetime. [2]



In 2017, the value of **cigars** (including cigarillos) and **smoking tobacco** (including roll your own and pipe tobacco) has **increased**. [5]

Current **use of e-cigarettes** among people aged 14 and over **increased** from **2.5%** in 2019 to **7.0%** in 2022-2023. [2]

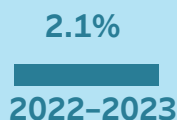


The **most common reason** given for people aged 14+ trying e-cigarettes in 2022-2023 was **curiosity** (58%). [2]

In 2022-2023, Australians living in the most **disadvantaged socioeconomic** areas were **3.3x as likely** as those in the most advantaged socioeconomic areas to **smoke daily**. [2]

Fewer dependent children are exposed to tobacco smoke inside the home. [2]

31%



Almost **1 in 9 mothers smoked** at any time **during pregnancy** in 2021. [7]





Australian Government

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare



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Main reasons smokers gave for **trying to quit or change** their smoking behaviour in 2022–2023.

[2]



Costing too much money (53%)



Affecting their health or fitness (45%)

Percentage of **daily smokers** has continued to **decline** according to the **National Drug Strategy Household Survey**. [2]



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National Drug Strategy Household Survey findings relate to people aged 14 or older unless specified. An adult is a person aged 18 or older.[2]

References

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Source: Alcohol, tobacco and other drugs in Australia

(<https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/alcohol/alcohol-tobacco-other-drugs-australia>).

