



Tobacco

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.^[9]



Daily smokers aged 14+ in 2019.^[2]



12.2%



9.9%

82% of **secondary school students** had **never tried smoking** in 2017 compared to 77% in 2011.^[6]



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

49%



1991

63%



2019

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 1.2% of closed alcohol and other drug treatment episodes in 2021–22.^[8]



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



\$136.7 billion [10]

Proportion of household costs spent on tobacco has **decreased** over time from 1.6% in 1984 to 0.9% in 2015-16.[4]

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

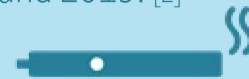


Almost **2 in 5 current smokers** aged 14 and over in 2019 had used **e-cigarettes** in their lifetime.[2]



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

Lifetime and current **use of e-cigarettes increased** among smokers and non-smokers between 2016 and 2019. [2]



The **most common reason** given for people aged 14+ trying e-cigarettes in 2019 was **curiosity** (54%).[2]

In 2019, Australians living in the most **disadvantaged socioeconomic** areas were **3.6x 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%



1995

2.1%



2019



Over **1 in 9 mothers smoked** at any time **during pregnancy** in 2020.[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 2019. [2]



Costing too much money (58%)



Affecting their health (45%)

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



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References

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]

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Source: Alcohol, tobacco and other drugs in Australia

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