In 2015, tobacco was the leading cause of cancer in Australia (22% of attributable burden).\(^1\)

Tobacco is the leading cause of preventable burden in Australia, 9.3% of the total burden of disease and injury in 2015.\(^1\)

The estimated social cost for tobacco use in 2015-16 was $136.7 billion.\(^9\)

82% of secondary school students had never tried smoking in 2017 compared to 77% in 2011.\(^6\)

Proportion of household costs spent on tobacco has decreased over time from 1.6% in 1984 to 0.9% in 2015–16.\(^4\)

Nicotine was the principal drug of concern in 1.1% of closed alcohol and other drug treatment episodes in 2019–20.\(^8\)

People aged 40+ were more likely to smoke 20+ cigarettes per day than those under 40.\(^2\)

People in their 40s and 50s were the most likely to smoke daily.\(^2\)

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.\(^2\)

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

People aged 40+ were more likely to smoke 20+ cigarettes per day than those under 40.\(^2\)

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.\(^2\)

In 2017, volume of sales of roll-your-own tobacco increased while cigarettes, cigars and pipe tobacco have all declined.\(^5\)

Average number of cigarettes smoked per day by daily smokers aged 18+ in 2017–18.\(^3\)

Almost 2 in 5 current smokers aged 14 and over had ever used e-cigarettes in 2019.\(^2\)

There has been an increase in the proportion of adults who never take up smoking.\(^2\)

<table>
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<th>1991</th>
<th>2019</th>
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<td>49%</td>
<td>63%</td>
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In 2019, the main reasons smokers gave for trying to quit or change their smoking behaviour was because it was costing too much money (58%) or it was affecting their health (45%).

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

In 2017, volume of tobacco products sold decreased while value of retail sales increased.

Daily smokers aged 14+ in 2019.

Around 1 in 10 mothers smoked at any time during pregnancy in 2018.

Percentage of daily smokers has continued to decline according to both the National Drug Strategy Household Survey and the National Health Survey.

National Drug Strategy Household Survey findings relate to people aged 14 or older unless specified.

An adult is a person aged 18 or older.


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For more detail, see the full report, Alcohol, tobacco and other drugs in Australia, which is available from the AIHW website.