

Indicators for chronic diseases and their determinants | 2008

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Abbreviations

AACR	Australasian Association of Cancer Registries
AAG	Australian Alcohol Guidelines
AAS	Active Australia Survey
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ACAM	Australian Centre for Asthma Monitoring
ACIM Books	Australian Cancer Incidence and Mortality Books
AIHW	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
ANZDATA	Australia and New Zealand Dialysis and Transplant Registry
AusDiab	Australian Diabetes, Obesity and Lifestyle Study
Blueprint	Blueprint for nation-wide surveillance of chronic disease and associated determinants
BMI	body mass index
Catalogue	Catalogue of indicators of chronic disease and their associated determinants
CATI	computer assisted telephone interview
CHD	coronary heart disease
CKD	chronic kidney disease
COPD	chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
DALY	disability-adjusted life years
DHAC	Department of Health and Aged Care
DMFT	number of decayed, missing due to caries, and filled teeth
DoHA	Department of Health and Ageing
ESKD	end-stage kidney disease
GDP	gross domestic product
GRIM Books	General Record of Incidence of Mortality Books
GSS	General Social Survey
HDL	high-density lipoproteins
IDI	International Diabetes Institute
IFG	impaired fasting glucose
IGT	impaired glucose tolerance
K10	Kessler 10
LDL	low-density lipoproteins

NATSIHS	National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey
NCDS	National Chronic Disease Strategy
NCSCH	National Cancer Statistics Clearing House
NDSHS	National Drug Strategy Household Survey
NHF	National Heart Foundation
NHMRC	National Health and Medical Research Council
NHPAC	National Health Priorities Advisory Council
NHPC	National Health Performance Committee
NHS	National Health Survey
NNS	National Nutrition Survey
NPAG	National Physical Activity Guidelines
NPHP	National Public Health Partnership
PHIDG	Population Health Information Development Group
PYLL	potential years of life lost
SDAC	Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers
SMHWB	Survey of Mental Health and Wellbeing
SPANS	Schools Physical Activity and Nutrition Survey
WHO	World Health Organization



Summary

This report is the third in a series about chronic diseases. The first report covered information on selected chronic diseases and their associated risk factors. The second report covered patterns of chronic disease. This report covers indicators for chronic disease, and signals the beginning of a new program of work and activities in the surveillance, monitoring and reporting of chronic diseases.

The report uses findings from other Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) reports and data sources to look at favourable and unfavourable trends in chronic disease over time. It focuses on the determinants of 12 chronic conditions and selected determinants identified by the (former) National Public Health Partnership (NPHP) as those conditions that represent the largest burden of disease in Australia, and looks for evidence to support that preventive interventions are effective.

x

About chronic disease indicators

For some nationally endorsed indicators, there are no data, and where data are available, some are out of date, don't enable useful subpopulation comparisons, or don't match health guidelines.

Further, not all chronic diseases have nationally-endorsed indicators.

Highlights

- In the period from 1982 to 2003, rates of lung cancers have decreased for males but increased for females.
- About two-thirds of adults do not exercise enough to confer a health benefit.
- The proportion of Australians who report Type 2 diabetes more than doubled in 10 years, from about 2% in 1995 to almost 5% in 2004–05.
- While incidence rates for colorectal cancer have increased in the last decade, deaths from the condition have been decreasing at an average of 2% per year since the early 1980s.
- On average, about one-half of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who live in the non-remote areas of Australia are daily smokers.
- In 2004–05, almost 60% of males and 40% of females were either overweight or obese.

For the majority of indicators reported here there has been a favourable trend, or no apparent trend (Table S.1).

Table S.1: Summary of trends for indicators of chronic disease and associated determinants

Condition or determinant	Favourable trend	No trend	Unfavourable trend	No data available ^(a)
Ischaemic heart disease				
Incidence of acute coronary heart disease events	✓			
Deaths occurring after acute coronary heart disease events	✓			
Proportion of people with mild/moderate/severe disability at 6 months following the diagnosis of initial cardiac event				✓
Stroke				
Incidence rates for stroke				✓
Death rates for stroke (aged 0–79 years)	✓			
Proportion of people with mild/moderate/severe disability at 6 months following the diagnosis of initial stroke event				✓
Type 2 diabetes				
Prevalence rates for Type 2 diabetes			✓	
Incidence rates for Type 2 diabetes				✓
Proportion of persons with end-stage kidney disease with diabetic nephropathy as a causal factor			✓	
Kidney disease No indicators for this condition				
Arthritis				
Prevalence of osteoarthritis among persons aged 25 years or over		✓		
Prevalence of rheumatoid arthritis		✓		
Death rates for rheumatoid arthritis as the underlying cause of death		✓		
Death rates for rheumatoid arthritis as an associated cause of death		✓		
Number of primary total hip replacements for arthritis	✓			
Number of primary total knee replacements for arthritis	✓			
Osteoporosis				
Prevalence of osteoporosis among persons aged 40 years or over			✓ (with caution)	
Number of hospital separations for minimal trauma hip fractures among persons aged 40 years or over		✓		
Lung cancer				
Incidence of cancer of the trachea, bronchus and lung	✓ (males)		✓ (females)	
Death rates for cancer of the trachea, bronchus and lung	✓ (males)		✓ (females)	

(Continued)



Table S.1 (continued): Summary of trends for indicators of chronic disease and associated determinants

Condition or determinant	Favourable trend	No trend	Unfavourable trend	No data available ^(a)
Colorectal cancer				
Incidence rates for colorectal cancer			✓	
Death rates for colorectal cancer	✓			
Five-year survival rates for colorectal cancer	✓			
Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease		No indicators for this condition		
Asthma				
Prevalence of ever having doctor-diagnosed asthma	✓			
Death rate for asthma	✓			
Proportion of people with asthma who have a recent, written asthma action plan, developed in consultation with their general practitioner	✓			
Depression				
Prevalence rates for depressive disorders in general population				✓
Proportion of general practitioners who know and apply best-practice guidelines for the identification and management of depression				✓
Oral health				
Proportion of children decay-free at age 6 years and at age 12 years	✓			
Proportion of young people decay free at 12 years and 15 years	✓			
Proportion of the population served by a reticulated water supply that provides satisfactory fluoride levels whether artificially fluoridated or naturally occurring				✓
The percentage of the dentate population reporting a social impact (for example, toothache, difficulty chewing, concerned about appearance) because of problems with teeth, mouth or gums in the last 12 months, by age group, living circumstance, eligibility for public dental care, Indigenous identity and special needs				✓
Tobacco smoking				
Prevalence of daily smoking, persons aged 14 years and over	✓			
Prevalence of daily smoking, persons aged 18 years and over	✓			
Proportion of Indigenous people aged 15 years and over who are cigarette smokers		✓		
Proportion of adults who succeed in quitting each year				✓

(Continued)

Table S.1 (continued): Summary of trends for indicators of chronic disease and associated determinants

Condition or determinant	Favourable trend	No trend	Unfavourable trend	No data available ^(a)
Physical inactivity				
Proportion of adults not engaged in sufficient physical activity to confer a health benefit		✓		
Alcohol misuse				
Proportion of the population that consume risky or high-risk levels for long-term alcohol-related harm, persons aged 14 years or over		✓		
Proportion of Indigenous people aged 15 years and over reporting risky alcohol consumption		✓		
Overweight and obesity				
Proportion of adults who are overweight			✓	
Proportion of children aged 2–14 years whose body weight is at an acceptable/unacceptable level as measured by body mass index scores				✓
Proportion of young people aged 12–24 years who are overweight or obese according to their body mass index			✓	
Nutrition				
Proportion of people eating sufficient daily serves of fruit or vegetables		✓		
Hypertension				
Proportion of adults with high blood pressure		✓		
Dyslipidaemia				
Proportion of adults with high blood cholesterol, aged 25–64				✓
Impaired glucose tolerance		No indicators for this determinant		
Proteinuria		No indicators for this determinant		
Psychosocial factors				
Proportion of households with children under 15 years of age where respondent was able to get support in time of crisis from persons living outside household				✓
Level of psychological distress as measured by the Kessler 10		✓		

(Continued)



Table S.1 (continued): Summary of trends for indicators of chronic disease and associated determinants

Condition or determinant	Favourable trend	No trend	Unfavourable trend	No data available ^(a)
Early life factors				
Proportion of women smoking during pregnancy and after birth	✓			
Percentage of women who consume alcohol during pregnancy		✓		
Percentage of birthweights in each of a number of ranges (<1,500g, 1,500–2,499g, 2,500–4,199g, 4,200g+)		✓		
Rate of children aged 0–14 years who have been the victim of physical and sexual assault				✓
Rate of young people aged 12–24 years who have been the victim of physical and/or sexual assault				✓

(a) Includes situations where insufficient data are available to measure a national trend as well as no national existing data to report against that indicator.