

South Australian smoking prevalence by industry and occupation

INTRODUCTION

This briefing presents a summary of smoking rates by major work industry and occupational groups in South Australia for 2007-08.

METHODOLOGY

Data used within this brief are based on Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) data, from the 2007-08 National Health Survey (NHS). The NHS is a face-to-face survey which examines key health risk factors, including smoking, among respondents aged 15 years and over. Approximately 20,800 people from all States and Territories and across all age groups were included.

For the purpose of the survey, smoker status was defined as the extent to which a respondent was smoking at the time of interview, and refers to regular smoking of tobacco, including manufactured (packet) cigarettes, roll-your-own cigarettes, cigars and pipes, but excludes chewing tobacco and smoking of non-tobacco products. Categorised as:

- Current smoker - a respondent who reported at the time of interview that they smoked cigarettes, cigars or pipes;
- Ex-smoker - a respondent who reported they did not currently smoke, but had regularly smoked daily, or had smoked at least 100 cigarettes, or smoked pipes, cigars, etc at least 20 times in their lifetime; and
- Never smoked - a respondent who reported they had never regularly smoked daily, and had smoked less than 100 cigarettes in their lifetime and had smoked pipes, cigars, etc less than 20 times.

Further details pertaining to the National Health Survey can be found on ABS website at:
[http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/4364.0Main+Features12007-2008%20\(Reissue\)?OpenDocument](http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/4364.0Main+Features12007-2008%20(Reissue)?OpenDocument)

KEY RESULTS

Overall, smoking prevalence for employed South Australians during 2007-08 for this survey was 22% (175,700 persons).

Table 1 below presents South Australian smoking prevalence by major occupation group.¹

¹ Industry groups are based on ANZSCO – Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations, First edition, 2006. ABS Catalogue No. 1220.0

Table 1: South Australian smoking prevalence by occupation, 2007-2008

Occupation	Current smoker		Ex-Smoker		Never smoked		Total	
	('000)	(%)	('000)	(%)	('000)	(%)	('000)	(%)
Labourers	30.4	36	10.4*	12*	42.5	51	83.3	100
Technician / Trade Worker	31.1	28	32.8	30	46.8	42	110.7	100
Machinery Operators / Drivers	14.5	26	18.4	33	22.6	41	55.6	100
Managers	23.6	22	24.9	23	58.4	55	106.9	100
Community / Personal Service Worker	21.5	22	25.1	26	50.7	52	97.3	100
Clerical / Administrative Worker	21.0	20	30.0	28	56.6	53	107.6	100
Sales Worker	12.3*	18*	12.6*	19*	41.9	63	66.8	100
Professional	20.5	13	35.7	23	96.7	63	152.9	100

* Estimate has an approximate relative standard error of 25%-50% and should be used with caution

Table 2 presents South Australian smoking prevalence by grouped industries².

Table 2: South Australian smoking prevalence by Industry group, 2007-2008

Industry group [#]	Current smoker		Non-smoker [^]		Total	
	('000)	(%)	('000)	(%)	('000)	(%)
Manufacturing	31.9	30	74.0	70	105.9	100
Construction	16.5	30	38.2	70	54.7	100
Wholesale Trade + Transport, Postal and Warehousing	18.2	30	42.9	70	61.1	100
Accommodation and Food Services	16.3	30	37.8	70	54.1	100
Mining + Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services + Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	14.0	26	38.9	74	52.9	100
Arts and Recreation Services + Other Services	11.3*	24	36.8	77	48.0	100
Public Administration and Safety + Administrative and Support Services + Education and Training	23.7	18	107.1	82	130.9	100
Retail Trade + Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services	18.7	17	90.7	83	109.4	100
Health Care and Social Assistance	14.5	16	74.6	84	89.1	100
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services + Financial and Insurance Services + Information Media and Telecommunications	10.1	13	66.1	87	76.2	100

[#] Industries with '+' signs have been grouped to improve the reliability of prevalence estimates

[^] Includes ex-smokers and persons who have never smoked

² Industry groups are based on Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC) 2006. ABS Catalogue No. 1292.0

CONCLUSIONS

The occupations with the highest smoking prevalence were Labourers (36%), Technician and Trade Workers (28%), and Machinery Operators and Drivers (26%), while the occupations with lowest smoking prevalence were professionals (13%), and sales workers (18%).

The industry groups with the highest smoking prevalence included Manufacturing (30%), Construction (30%), Wholesale Trade + Transport, Postal and Warehousing (30%), and Accommodation and Food Services (30%). The industry groups with low smoking prevalence included Professional, Scientific and Technical Services + Financial and Insurance Services + Information Media and Telecommunications (13%), Health Care and Social Assistance (16%), Retail Trade + Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services (17%), and Public Administration and Safety + Administrative and Support Services + Education and Training (18%).