



Key Smoking Statistics for SA# – 2008

SMOKING PREVALENCE IN SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ADULTS

Table 1 shows smoking rates in the population (aged 15+) and sub-groups.

Table 1: Smoking prevalence in 2008 (age standardised to 2001 population)

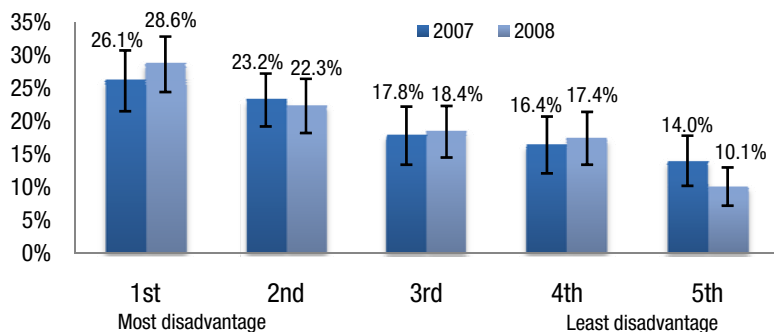
	Smoking prevalence (%)	95% CI
Males	22.2	19.6-24.8
Females	17.8	15.4-20.2
15-29 years*	23.2	19.5-26.9
30-44 years	26.2	22.3-30.1
45-59 years	21.6	17.9-25.3
60+ years	7.2	5.0-9.4
Total (15+)	19.9	18.1-21.7

Smoking prevalence (%) over time (age standardised to 2001)

	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08
All smoking	23.8	23.5	24.1	23.6	21.9	19.1	20.7	20.6	19.9
(95% CI)	(±1.8)	(±1.8)	(±1.8)	(±1.8)	(±1.8)	(±1.8)	(±1.7)	(±1.9)	(±1.8)
Daily smoking	20.2	20.0	20.7	19.7	18.0	16.2	17.8	17.4	17.7
(95% CI)	(±1.7)	(±1.7)	(±1.7)	(±1.7)	(±1.7)	(±1.6)	(±1.7)	(±1.8)	(±1.7)

Figure 1 shows that in 2008, there was higher smoking prevalence among people living in areas of the most disadvantage compared to those in the areas of least disadvantage. There was no significant difference in smoking rates by disadvantage quintiles between 2007 and 2008.

Figure 1: Smoking prevalence (±CI) in each Index of Relative Social Disadvantage quintile, 2007 and 2008



Unless otherwise specified source of data is Health Omnibus Survey 2008

* Statistic used to measure progress on target T2.1 in South Australia's Strategic Plan

EXPOSURE TO PASSIVE SMOKING, 2008

In 2008, most South Australians (72.5%) reported that they were concerned about their exposure to passive smoking generally. Overall, 71.4% reported that they had been exposed to someone else's cigarette smoke in the previous two weeks.

SMOKING RESTRICTIONS

Community Support (2008 data)

In 2008 (after the full implementation of the smoke-free hospitality legislation) community support for legislation was high (92.0% for bars and 89.3% for gaming venues)*. Community support has increased significantly since 2007.

*Source: Health Monitor Survey 2008

In the workplace (2007 data*)

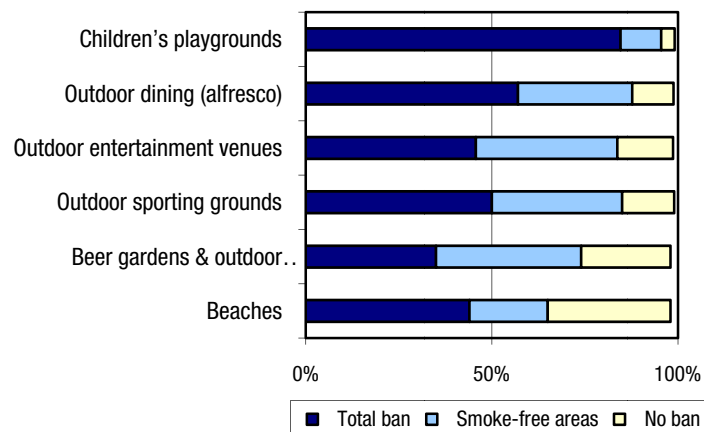
Smoke-free workplace legislation was implemented on 6 December 2004, requiring all South Australian workplaces to be smoke-free (with phase-in provisions for hospitality venues ending on 1 November 2007). In 2007, 4.4% of indoor workers reported that no smoking bans existed at their workplace, or that the workplace bans did not apply to their workstation. These workers may therefore be potentially exposed to passive smoking at their workstation.

In public spaces (2007 data*)

Figure 2 shows that there is a high level of public support for further smoking restrictions in public spaces, particularly in children's playgrounds.

*Source: Health Omnibus Survey 2007

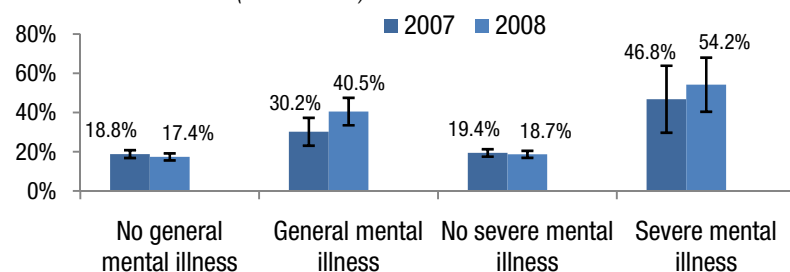
Figure 2: Preferences for smoking restrictions, 2007



SMOKING PREVALENCE IN PEOPLE WITH A MENTAL ILLNESS, 2008

Respondents who reported they had a general mental illness¹ were significantly more likely to be smokers than those who did not report a general mental illness. In addition, respondents who reported a serious mental illness² were more likely to be smokers than those who did not report a serious mental illness. While smoking prevalence among those who reported a serious mental illness did not change significantly from 2007 to 2008, there was a significant increase between these years among people who reported a general mental illness.

Figure 3: Smoking rates among people receiving treatment for a mental illness and the disability pension for a mental illness (2007 & 2008)



SMOKING PREVALENCE IN SOUTH AUSTRALIAN SCHOOL CHILDREN, 2005*

In 2005, 4.6% of 12-15 year olds were current smokers (4.2% of boys and 5.1% of girls) and 14.8% of 16-17 year olds were current smokers (14.2% for boys and 15.3% for girls). Rates in 12-15 year olds were significantly lower than rates reported in 2002; however, rates for 16-17 year olds were not.

*Source: ASSAD survey, to be updated at the end of 2009.

SMOKING PREVALENCE IN INDIGENOUS PEOPLE, 2004-05

The most recent South Australian data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics indicate that 52.9% of the adult Indigenous population were daily smokers in 2004-05 (50.3% living in remote areas and 53.7% living in non remote areas).

Source: ABS data cube 'National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey, South Australia, 2004-05' 2006.

In 2004-05, 50% of the adult Indigenous population in Australia were daily smokers. There has been little change in this rate of smoking among Indigenous people since 1995.

Source: Trewin, D 'National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey 2004-05'. Australian Bureau of Statistics. 11 April 2006. ABS Catalogue No. 4715.0.

¹ Defined as currently receiving treatment for anxiety, depression or any other mental health problem

² Defined as currently receiving the disability pension based on a psychological or psychiatric illness

QUIT ATTEMPTS, 2008

Most South Australian smokers have made a previous quit attempt; many in the past year and half intend to try to quit in the next six months. Importantly, the majority of smokers mention Quit campaigns or the Quitline when asked about sources of help for smokers to quit.

Table 2: Quitting intentions and awareness of services, 2008

Quitting behaviour and intentions	%
Ever tried to quit	79.5%
Attempted to quit in the past 12 months	33.7%
Seriously considering quitting in the next six months	50.3%
Knowledge of services to help smokers quit (unprompted)	
Quitline /Quit campaign	83.0%
Nicotine Replacement Therapy	41.2%
Talking to Doctor	18.6%

ACTIVE SMOKING AND HEALTH, 2008

In 2008, 92.9% of the population (89.5% of smokers) believed smoking causes illness and/or damage to the body. There was a significant decrease in awareness that active smoking causes asthma, blindness/eye damage and stroke among smokers and the general community since 2007 (see Table 3).

Table 3: Beliefs that active smoking will cause illness and damage to the body, 2007 and 2008

Illness or damage	2007	2008
	% Population (smokers only)	% Population (smokers only)
Asthma	17.0% (14.5%)	5.6% (6.2%)
Blindness/eye damage	14.7% (24.6%)	11.5% (17.9%)
Stroke	12.1% (16.6%)	8.8% (10.4%)

SMOKE-FREE HOMES AND CARS, 2008

In 2008, 86.1% of homes were smoke-free (having either a ban or no-one that smoked in the household). Furthermore, 87.8% of car owners reported no smoking in their cars.