



Key Smoking Statistics for SA – 2007

Updated 22 September 2008

SMOKING PREVALENCE IN SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ADULTS

Table 1 shows smoking rates in the population (aged 15+) and sub-groups.
Tool: Health Omnibus Survey, 2007.

Table 1: Smoking prevalence in 2007 (age standardised to 2001 population)

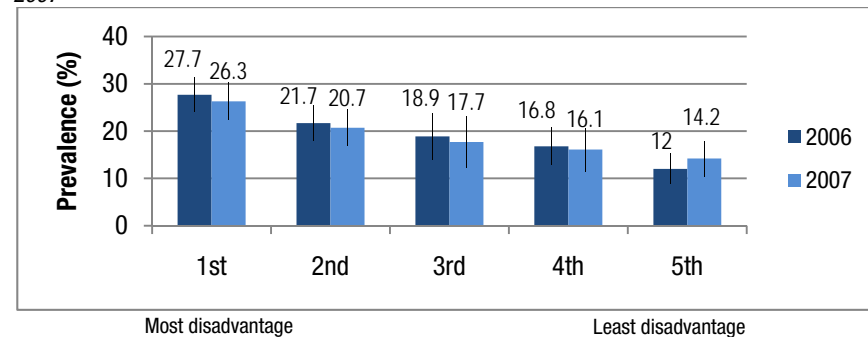
	Smoking prevalence (%)	95% CI
Males	22.4	19.5-25.3
Females	18.8	16.2-21.4
15-29 years*	23.0	18.9-27.1
30-44 years	29.4	25.1-33.7
45-59 years	21.3	17.4-25.2
60+ years	6.7	4.3-9.1
Total (15+)	20.6	18.7-22.5

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

	99	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07
All smoking	25.0	23.8	23.5	24.1	23.6	21.9	19.1	20.7	20.6
(95% CI)	(±1.9)	(±1.8)	(±1.8)	(±1.8)	(±1.8)	(±1.8)	(±1.8)	(±1.7)	(±1.9)
Daily smoking	22.1	20.2	20.0	20.7	19.7	18.0	16.2	17.8	17.4
(95% CI)	(±1.8)	(±1.7)	(±1.7)	(±1.7)	(±1.7)	(±1.7)	(±1.6)	(±1.7)	(±1.8)

Figure 1 shows that in 2007, 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 2006 and 2007.

Figure 1: Smoking prevalence (±CI) in each Index of Relative Social Disadvantage quintile, 2006 and 2007



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

SMOKING RESTRICTIONS, 2007

In the workplace

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 2007, most South Australians (73.3%) reported that they were concerned about their exposure to passive smoking generally. Overall, 67.7% reported that they had been exposed to someone else's cigarette smoke in the previous two weeks.

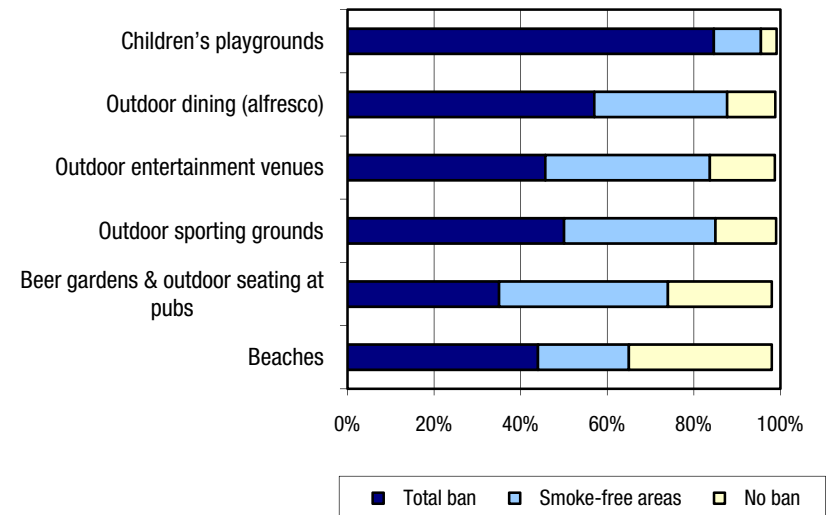
In March/April 2007 (4 months after the smoke-free hospitality legislation was implemented) community support for legislation was high (86% for bars and 88% for gaming venues)*. Community support has increased significantly since 2003.

*Tool: Health Monitor Survey, 2007.

In public spaces

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

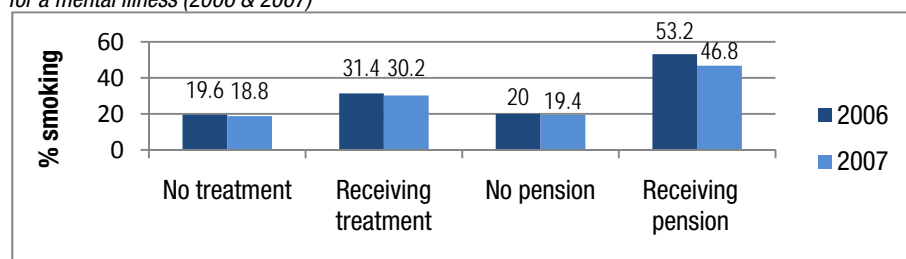
Figure 2: Preferences for smoking restrictions



SMOKING PREVALENCE IN PEOPLE WITH A MENTAL ILLNESS, 2007

Respondents who reported receiving treatment for anxiety, depression or any other mental health problem were significantly more likely to be smokers than those who did not report receiving treatment. In addition, respondents who reported currently receiving the disability pension for a psychiatric illness were more likely to be smokers than those who were not receiving the disability pension. There was no significant decline in smoking prevalence among either of the groups from 2006 to 2007.

Figure 3: Smoking rates among people receiving treatment for a mental illness and the disability pension for a mental illness (2006 & 2007)



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.

*Tool: ASSAD survey, Updated at end of 2009.

SMOKING PREVALENCE IN INDIGENOUS PEOPLE, 2004-05

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.

QUIT ATTEMPTS, 2007

Most South Australian smokers have made a previous quit attempt; many in the past year and almost 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, 2007

Quitting behaviour and intentions	%
Ever tried to quit	79.2%
Attempted to quit in the past 12 months	35.3%
Seriously considering quitting in the next six months	49.4%
Knowledge of services to help smokers quit (unprompted)	
Quitline /Quit campaign	86.8%
Nicotine Replacement Therapy	31.5%
Talking to Doctor	9.0%

Tool: Health Omnibus Survey, 2007.

ACTIVE SMOKING AND HEALTH, 2007

In 2007, 96.4% of the population (94.1% of smokers) believed smoking causes illness and/or damage to the body. There was a significant increase in awareness that active smoking causes stroke, eye damage and harm to the unborn baby among smokers and the general community since 2006 (see Table 3). This may be attributed to the graphic health warnings released on these topics in November 2006.

Table 3: Beliefs that active smoking will cause illness and damage to the body, 2006 and 2007

Illness or damage	2006	2007
	% Population (smokers only)	% Population (smokers only)
Eye damage	10.3% (11.5%)	14.7% (24.6%)
Stroke	6.9% (7.8%)	12.1% (16.6%)
Harm to unborn baby	5.9% (4.9%)	9.3% (13.3%)

SMOKE-FREE HOMES AND CARS, 2007

In 2007, 86.5% of homes were smoke-free (having either a ban or no-one that smoked in the household). Furthermore, 87.6% of car owners reported no smoking in their cars.

Tool: Health Omnibus Survey, 2007.