

Adult—body mass index

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Adult—body mass index

Identifying and definitional attributes

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|-----------------------------|--|
| Metadata item type: | Data Element Concept |
| METEOR identifier: | 269556 |
| Registration status: | Health!, Standard 01/03/2005 National Health Performance Authority (retired) , Retired 01/07/2016 |
| Definition: | Weight (body mass) relative to height used to assess the extent of weight deficit or excess in adults. |
| Context: | Public health and health care: |

Body Mass Index (BMI) is used as an indicator of underweight, normal or healthy weight and overweight and obesity in adults and overweight and obesity in children and adolescents. On a population basis there is a strong association between BMI and health risk such as coronary heart disease, non-insulin dependant diabetes mellitus and high [blood pressure](#) in adults.

In population based surveys, BMI may be used:

- to indicate the prevalence of thinness and overweight and their sociodemographic distribution (problem identification)
- to evaluate health promotion and disease prevention programs (assessment of interventions)
- to monitor progress towards National public health policy
- to ascertain determinants and consequences of thinness and overweight
- in nutrition and physical activity surveillance and long-term planning.

Object Class attributes

Identifying and definitional attributes

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Object class: | Adult |
| Definition: | An individual aged 18 years or older. |
| Specialisation of: | Person/group of persons |

Source and reference attributes

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Submitting organisation: | Australia Institute of Health and Welfare |
|---------------------------------|---|

Property attributes

Identifying and definitional attributes

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Property: | Body mass index |
| Definition: | A measure of body fat that gives an indication of nutritional status. Body mass index is the weight in kilograms divided by the square of the height in meters. |
| Property group: | Physical characteristics |

Source and reference attributes

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Origin: | Dorland's Illustrated Medical Dictionary 30th ed. Philadelphia: Saunders |
|----------------|--|

Data element concept attributes

Relational attributes

**Data Elements
implementing this Data
Element Concept:**

[Adult—body mass index \(measured\), ratio NN\[N\].N\[N\]](#)
[Health!](#), Standard 01/03/2005

[Adult—body mass index \(self-reported\), ratio NN\[N\].N\[N\]](#)
[Health!](#), Standard 01/03/2005

[National Health Performance Authority \(retired\)](#), Retired 01/07/2016