SMOKING PREVALENCE AMONG SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ADULTS, 2020

Table 1 shows 2020 smoking rates in the adult population (aged 15+ years) and sub-groups.

Table 1: Smoking prevalence (%) in 2020 (age standardised to 2016 population)

	Daily Smokers (%)	95%CI	All smokers^ (%)	95%CI
Males	11.1	9.4-12.7	15.8	13.9-17.6
Females	10.2	8.7-11.7	11.3	9.7-12.9
15-29 years	10.9	8.5-13.2	15.4	12.6-18.1
30-44 years	11.4	9.1-13.7	15.4	12.8-18.1
45-59 years	14.2	11.6-16.8	16.6	13.9-19.3
60+ years	6.8	5.1-8.5	7.9	6.1-9.7
Total adults (15+)	10.6	9.5-11.7	13.5	12.2-14.7

^Defined as those who reported smoking daily, weekly or less often than weekly

SMOKING PREVALENCE (%) OVER TIME, 15-29 YEARS AND 15+ YEARS

Table 2 shows daily and all smoking in the population aged 15+ years and those aged 15-29 years.

Table 2: Daily and all smoking prevalence (%) over time (age standardised to 2016 population)

	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Daily smoking											
15-29 years	17.8	13.9	15.0	14.9	10.2	12.0	10.9	11.8	4.5	7.4	10.9
(95% CI)	±3.3	±3.0	±3.1	±3.2	±2.8	±2.9	±2.7	±3.0	±1.7	±2.3	±2.3
Adults(15+)	16.8	14.8	13.9	15.6	12.4	13.3	12.8	13.9	8.6	9.7	10.6
(95% CI)	±1.6	±1.5	±1.5	±1.6	±1.5	±1.5	±1.4	±1.5	±1.0	±1.1	±1.1
All smoking											
15-29 years	23.5	17.9	18.6	20.0	15.1	17.3	12.8	15.2	10.1	11.0	15.4
(95% CI)	±3.6	±3.3	±3.4	±3.6	±3.3	±3.3	±2.9	±3.3	±2.5	±2.7	±2.7
Adults(15+)	20.0	17.1	16.1	18.7	15.1	15.4	14.7	16.0	12.0	12.4	13.5
(95% CI)	±1.7	±1.6	±1.6	±1.7	±1.6	±1.5	±1.5	±1.6	±1.2	±1.2	±1.2

Notes: Red line indicates changeover of data source from the Health Omnibus Survey (a face-to-face survey) to the South Australian Population Health Survey Module System (a phone survey). Estimates of smoking prevalence from phone surveys are approximately 3% lower than smoking prevalence derived from face-to-face surveys, and this should be considered when interpreting results. Historical data have been updated to reflect age-standardisation to the 2016 population.

SMOKING PREVALENCE AMONG SOUTH AUSTRALIAN SCHOOL CHILDREN, 2017*

In 2017, 2.4% (2.8% of males and 2.0% of females) of school students aged 12-17 were current smokers (i.e. had smoked in the past week), which was statistically similar to 2014 (3.0%). A total of 1.3% of 12-15 year olds were current smokers (1.4% of males and 1.1% of females) and 4.6% of 16-17 year olds were current smokers (5.7% for males and 3.5% for females).

*Source: Australian School Students Alcohol and Drug Survey 2017. Data updated in 2021 to reflect new weighting.

KEY SMOKING STATISTICS FOR SA – 2020

SMOKING PREVALENCE BY AREA OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC DISADVANTAGE, 2017-2020

Figure 1 shows that in 2020, smoking prevalence was higher among people living in areas of most disadvantage compared to those in the areas of least disadvantage. The smoking rate in 2020 for the two most disadvantaged groups combined was statistically similar to both 2018 and 2019, and significantly lower than 2017.

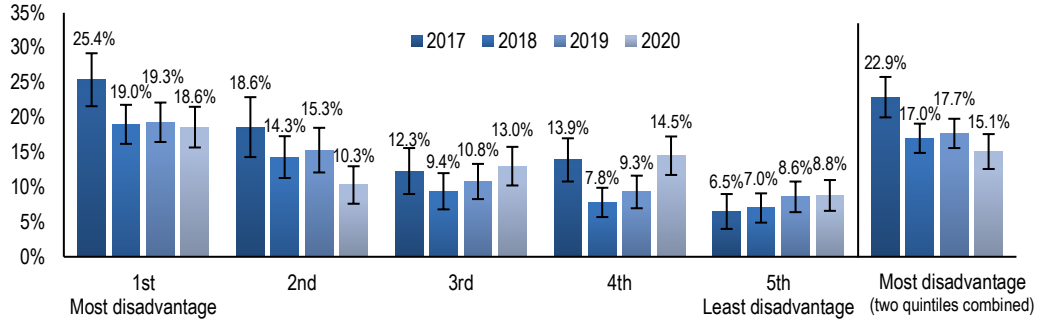

Figure 1: Smoking prevalence (±95% CI) in each Index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage quintile, 2017-2020

Note: historical prevalence figures have been updated to reflect the 2016 IRSD quintile structure

SMOKING PREVALENCE AMONG PEOPLE LIVING IN COUNTRY SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 2017-2020

Figure 2 shows that in 2020, smoking prevalence was similar among people living in country South Australia and those living in metropolitan Adelaide. The smoking rate in 2020 for country South Australia was statistically similar to both 2018 and 2019, and significantly lower than 2017.

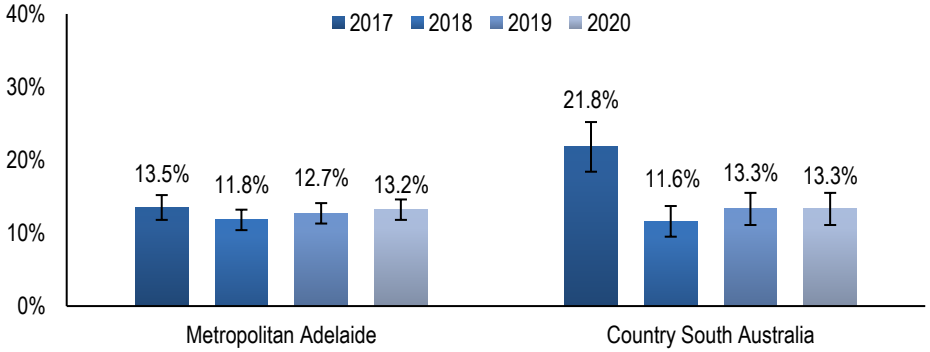

Figure 2: Smoking prevalence (± 95% CI) for people living and metropolitan Adelaide and country South Australia, 2017-2020

Citation: Health Policy Centre. *Key Smoking Statistics for SA – 2020* Adelaide, Australia. South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute (SAHMRI), May 2021.

Note: Unless otherwise specified, source of data is the South Australian Population Health Survey Module System 2020.

SMOKING PREVALENCE AMONG PEOPLE WITH A MENTAL ILLNESS, 2020

Respondents who reported living with either a general mental illness[i] or a severe mental illness[ii] were significantly more likely to be smokers than people living without either a general mental illness or a severe mental illness. Smoking prevalence in 2020 among respondents living with a general mental illness was statistically similar to both 2018 and 2019, and significantly lower than 2017. Smoking prevalence for respondents living with a severe mental illness was statistically similar to both 2018 and 2019, and significantly lower than 2017.

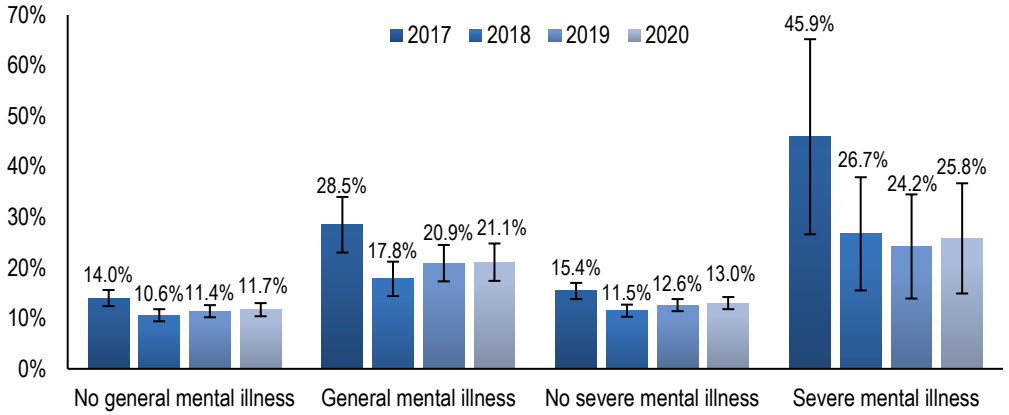

Figure 3: Smoking prevalence (± 95% CI) among people receiving treatment for a mental illness (general) or receiving a disability pension for a mental illness (severe), 2017 to 2020

SMOKING PREVALENCE AMONG SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINAL & TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLE, 2018-19*

In 2018-19, 40.4% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 18 years and over (age-standardised) in South Australia were current daily smokers (40.1% across Australia).

*Source: 4715.0 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey, Australia, 2018-19. Government reporting [data cube]. Released 11 December 2019. Australian Bureau of Statistics. Accessed 26 February 2020. Available from: https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/DetailsPage/4715.02018-19?OpenDocument

QUIT ATTEMPTS, 2020

The majority of South Australian smokers have made a previous quit attempt (73.2%); 38.9% have tried to quit in the past year and 61.8% intend to try to quit in the next six months.

DEATHS ATTRIBUTABLE TO TOBACCO*

There are approximately 1,490 tobacco-attributable deaths annually in South Australia and 20,933 across Australia (based on 2015 data).

*Source: Extrapolated from: Australian Burden of Disease Study: Impact and causes of illness and death in Australia, 2015. Appendix D: Additional tables and figures. Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 2019. Available from: https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/burden-of-disease/burden-disease-study-illness-death-2015

[i] Respondents who reported they were currently receiving treatment for anxiety, depression or any other mental health problem.

[ii] Respondents who reported they were currently receiving the disability pension for a psychological or psychiatric illness.

KEY SMOKING STATISTICS FOR SA – 2020

E-CIGARETTES, 2020

In 2020, 85.5% of the South Australian population reported that they had heard of e-cigarettes but only 2.6% were current users of e-cigarettes. Table 3 provides a summary of hearing about, trialling and using e-cigarettes according to smoking status. As shown in Table 3, previous and current use of e-cigarettes was more common among current smokers compared to ex-smokers and those who have never smoked.

Table 3: Proportion of respondents hearing about, trialling and using e-cigarettes, 2020

	Smoker %	Ex-smoker %	Never smoked %	Total %
Never heard of e-cigs	9.8	9.8	17.7	14.5
Current user	6.8	2.9	1.6	2.6
Not current user but…				
Tried within past 12 months	22.5	3.0	2.2	5.1
Tried over 12 months ago	33.3	12.9	2.1	9.1
Heard of e-cigs but never tried	27.5	71.5	76.5	68.7

EXPOSURE TO PASSIVE SMOKING, 2020

In 2020, 65.5% of the South Australian population reported that they had been exposed to someone else's cigarette smoking in the past two weeks, which was a significant decrease^ from 2019 (73.5%) but a significant increase from 2018 (60.8%). Figure 4 shows the locations at which people reported being exposed to passive smoke in the last two weeks (prompted) in 2019 and 2020. The most common location reported for being exposed to passive smoke in the last two weeks was building entrances, followed by other locations not listed, and outdoor seating at hotels/bars.

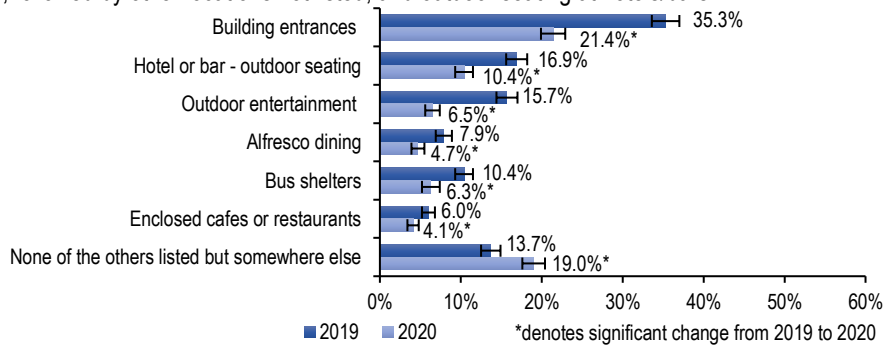

Figure 4: Proportion (± 95% CI) of the South Australian population who reported exposure to passive smoke in various locations in the past two weeks, 2019 and 2020

^Decrease in 2020 from 2019 may reflect social distancing due to COVID-19

SMOKE-FREE HOMES AND CARS, 2020

In 2020, a small proportion of the population reported that they were exposed to passive smoke in their own car (3.2%) and someone else's car (5.1%). A slightly higher proportion of the population was exposed to passive smoke in their own home (10.0%) or someone else's home (12.0%).