

This survey ... provides a picture of the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal adults, aged 15 years and over, living permanently, and temporarily in South Australia from November 2010 to October 2011. The information collected will be used to inform policy and improve health services provided for all Aboriginal South Australians as well as help to inform programs progressing the aims of the Closing the Gap initiatives.

Some of the information has already been used to feed into ongoing programs such as:

- ◆ 'Ever Felt Like Complaining' campaign;
- ◆ Tackling Smoking Closing the Gap programs;
- ◆ 'Give Up Smokes For Good' campaign;
- ◆ Aboriginal Well Health Checks programs;
- ◆ Road safety for Aboriginal persons;
- ◆ Safe driver's licensing practices; and
- ◆ Direction for the next survey.

The purpose of this booklet is to highlight the key findings from the smoking data for the overall state.

Should you wish to explore these or other SAAHS data in more depth, please do not hesitate to contact Population Research and Outcome Studies (PROS) (see overleaf). Additionally, the complete report can be viewed on the PROS website by clicking the [2012 South Australian Aboriginal Health Survey](#) link under reports.



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SA Health

The art work depicts families coming together to share food collected from the bush (Artist: Mark Elliot/Trevorrow, Ngarrindjeri Elder).

South Australian Aboriginal Health Survey

SMOKING



STATE OVERVIEW

Non Smoking

Over half of all SA Aboriginal adults do not smoke and less than one in ten of these report being ex-smokers. Non-smokers are more likely to be aged between 35 and 44 years.

Current smoking

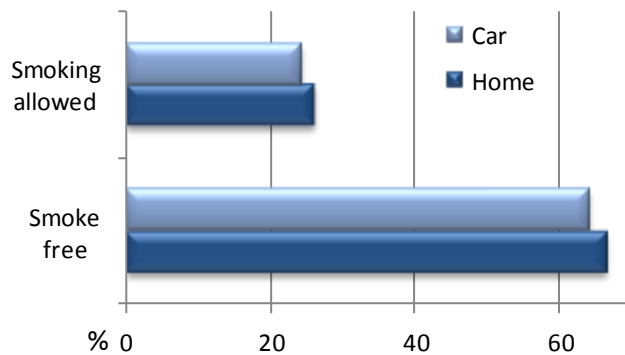
Overall, 48% are current smokers although 3.0% of those smoke less than daily.

Nearly half of all smokers started smoking between the ages of 10 and 15 years, while another one in three started between 16 and 19 years of age.

Smoking situations

When asked about smoking in their current dwelling and car, over half of all respondents reported that their house and car were a smoke free place (i.e. smoking was banned, or there was no ban but no-one smoked anyway).

Additionally, over half of all respondents reported living in a smoke free household with one or more other smokers.

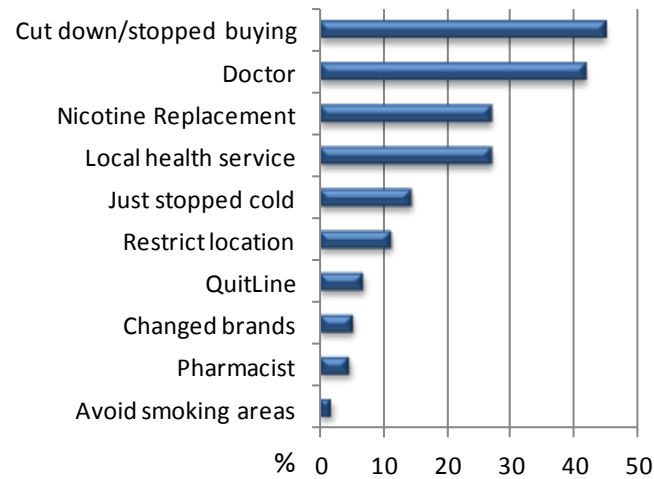


Smoking situations in car and at home

Quitting smoking

One third of current smokers were seriously considering quitting in the next six months and over one in three have tried at least once to quit.

Those respondents who had tried to quit smoking at least once before were asked what they had done in the last year. Cutting down or stopping buying cigarettes, talking to a doctor, and using nicotine replacement therapy were most reported.



Reported ways to quit smoking

When asked the name of any services or programs available to help people quit smoking, the most reported were Quitline, nicotine replacement therapy, and talking to a doctor.

Note: All data reported are from SAAHS 2101/11 for Aboriginal South Australians, 15 years of age and older.

Smoking risk awareness

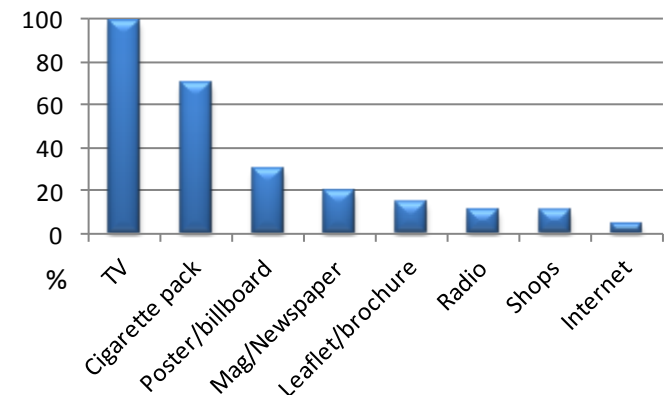
When asked about smoking and health, eight out of ten people said that there are illnesses that are caused by smoking, and over three quarters of these could name 'lung cancer' and 'heart disease' as being caused by smoking.

When questioned further, over three in five people are aware that illness can also be caused by breathing in other people's smoke (passive smoking).

Smoking advertising

Eight out of ten people reported that they have 'often' or 'very often' noticed advertising or information that talks about the dangers of smoking, or encourages quitting, in the last six months.

Respondents living in remote communities were less likely to report having noticed this advertising 'often' when compared to the rest of the state. Almost all respondents reported having seen this advertising on television (TV).



Where advertising/information was seen