

National report: treatment of morbid obesity from Australia

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Obesity is considered the greatest public health challenges confronting Australia. Amongst developed nations, Australia is one of the most overweight, with over 60% of adults and 25% children overweight or obese.

**PREVALENCE OF OBESITY BY AGE AND GENDER, 2008**

Age Group	Males (%)	Females (%)	Males ( '000)	Females ( '000)	Total ( '000)
0-4	0%	0%	0	0	0
5-19	7.8%	6.2%	165.4	124.9	290.3
20-24	11.1%	9.3%	84.7	68.2	152.9
25-34	19.4%	13.5%	281.8	193.0	474.8
35-44	19.9%	21.2%	301.5	324.6	626.1
45-54	23.2%	29.2%	338.6	430.8	769.4
55-64	28.5%	35.6%	344.9	431.7	776.6
65-74	22.2%	31.9%	164.4	244.2	408.6
75+	14.2%	16.9%	79.6	134.3	213.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>16.5%</b>	<b>18.5%</b>	<b>1,760.8</b>	<b>1,951.8</b>	<b>3,712.5</b>

5% of Australians have Type 2 diabetes. Of these, 10.8% are as a result of being obese.

OSSANZ (est 1980) represent the obesity society in Australia and New Zealand. Membership: 350 health professional: surgeons, physicians and Allied Health.

The OSSANZ Bariatric Surgical Standards(OBSS) are the credentialing guidelines . A National registry is being set up. The average cost for bariatric surgery in Australia is about \$15000-20000