Body Mass Index, 40 year old

Row variables:
Geography
Gender

Column variables:
Year

Filter variables:
Measure, average

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Description

Description: Mean body mass index (BMI).

Body mass index is defined as bodyweight (in kilos) divided by height (in meters) squared. WHO defines an adult BMI <18.5 as underweight, 18.5-24.9 normal, 25.0-29.9 overweight, and 30.0 or more obese.

Up until 1999, BMI was calculated for persons aged 40-42 years who participated in the 40-year-old survey. In 2000 the age criteria was changed to 40-45 years.

Data Source/Origin of data

Source: Norwegian Institute of Public Health (previously National Health Screening Service)
Collection: All 40-42 year olds were invited to a countywise health examination for certain diseases. Blood pressure, height, weight, hip and waist measures were registered, and a blood sample was taken. Participants were also asked to fill in one or more questionnaires. All participants received letters informing them of their results. The last health examination was conducted in 2003.

Data quality: The health examinations were conducted according to well-established standardized criteria over a long time. The response rate declined progressively over time. In the 1980's the response rate was around 80-90 %, by the late 1990's it had decreased to 60-70 % and in 2000-2001 was just 50 %. For all time periods, the response rate was 5-10 % higher for women than for men.

Divided by

Geographical level: Counties
Gender: Men, women
Frequency of updates: Health examinations are conducted in each county on a three year cycle. These examinations were discontinued in 2003 and a replacement is not yet planned.
Last updated: 2/12/07

Keyword

- Body mass Index
- weight
- overweight
- underweight
- BMI
- fat
- obese
- obesity
- weight to height ratio