

**Table 19. Current cigarette smoking among adults aged 18 and over, by selected characteristics: United States, average annual, selected years 1990–1992 through 2015–2017**

Excel version (with more data years and standard errors when available): [https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hus/contents2018.htm#Table\\_019](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hus/contents2018.htm#Table_019).

[Data are based on household interviews of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population]

Characteristic	Male			Female		
	1990–1992 <sup>1</sup>	1999–2001	2015–2017	1990–1992 <sup>1</sup>	1999–2001	2015–2017
18 years and over, age-adjusted <sup>2</sup>	Percent of adults who were current cigarette smokers <sup>3</sup>					
All persons <sup>4</sup>	27.9	25.0	16.9	23.7	21.1	13.3
Race <sup>5</sup>						
White only	27.4	25.1	16.8	24.3	22.2	14.1
Black or African American only	33.9	27.2	19.6	23.1	19.7	12.6
American Indian or Alaska Native only	34.2	30.3	18.5	36.7	34.7	19.2
Asian only	24.8	20.3	12.3	6.3	6.7	4.0
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander only	---	*	*	---	*	*
2 or more races	---	34.4	23.6	---	30.7	18.7
American Indian or Alaska Native and White	---	38.7	27.0	---	38.9	25.1
Hispanic origin and race <sup>5</sup>						
Hispanic or Latino	25.7	22.2	13.2	15.8	12.1	7.1
Mexican	26.2	21.9	14.3	14.8	10.6	6.7
Not Hispanic or Latino	28.1	25.5	17.7	24.4	22.3	14.6
White only	27.7	25.5	17.8	25.2	23.5	16.0
Black or African American only	33.9	27.2	20.0	23.2	19.7	12.7
18 years and over, crude						
All persons <sup>4</sup>	28.4	25.5	16.7	23.6	21.0	13.1
Race <sup>5</sup>						
White only	27.8	25.4	16.4	24.1	21.7	13.7
Black or African American only	33.2	27.5	19.6	23.3	19.8	12.7
American Indian or Alaska Native only	35.5	31.8	19.6	37.3	36.9	19.4
Asian only	24.9	21.4	12.5	6.3	6.9	4.0
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander only	---	*	*	---	*	*
2 or more races	---	35.9	22.8	---	31.5	18.2
American Indian or Alaska Native and White	---	41.1	26.6	---	40.1	23.1
Hispanic origin and race <sup>5</sup>						
Hispanic or Latino	26.5	23.2	13.5	16.6	12.6	7.0
Mexican	27.1	22.8	14.8	15.0	11.0	6.5
Not Hispanic or Latino	28.5	25.8	17.3	24.2	21.9	14.2
White only	28.0	25.5	17.1	24.8	22.7	15.2
Black or African American only	33.3	27.5	20.0	23.3	19.8	12.8
Age and Hispanic origin and race <sup>5</sup>						
18–24 years:						
Hispanic or Latino	19.3	22.6	12.0	12.8	12.9	3.7
Not Hispanic or Latino:						
White only	28.9	32.7	15.4	28.7	30.8	14.1
Black or African American only	17.7	21.9	12.7	10.8	13.0	7.6
25–34 years:						
Hispanic or Latino	29.9	23.2	15.3	19.2	12.5	6.4
Not Hispanic or Latino:						
White only	32.7	30.8	22.3	30.9	27.4	17.7
Black or African American only	34.6	23.3	25.7	29.2	16.9	13.3
35–44 years:						
Hispanic or Latino	32.1	25.3	13.9	19.9	14.1	8.5
Not Hispanic or Latino:						
White only	32.3	29.6	21.1	27.3	28.3	18.9
Black or African American only	44.1	32.0	21.4	31.3	27.5	14.3

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Characteristic	Male			Female		
	1990–1992 <sup>1</sup>	1999–2001	2015–2017	1990–1992 <sup>1</sup>	1999–2001	2015–2017
Age and Hispanic origin and race <sup>5</sup>	Percent of adults who were current cigarette smokers <sup>3</sup>					
45–64 years:						
Hispanic or Latino	26.6	24.7	13.6	17.1	13.5	9.0
Not Hispanic or Latino:						
White only	28.4	25.1	18.7	26.1	22.1	18.2
Black or African American only	38.0	34.0	20.4	26.1	23.6	15.8
65 years and over:						
Hispanic or Latino	16.1	12.6	10.1	6.6	5.9	5.1
Not Hispanic or Latino:						
White only	14.2	10.0	8.8	12.3	9.8	7.9
Black or African American only	25.2	17.6	16.9	10.7	11.0	8.6
Percent of poverty level <sup>2,6</sup>						
Below 100%	40.5	36.5	28.9	30.7	29.1	23.4
100%–199%	35.0	32.8	24.5	26.9	25.6	18.1
200%–399%	26.5	27.3	18.5	22.6	22.3	13.8
400% or more	22.5	18.8	10.7	19.0	15.9	7.4
Hispanic origin and race and percent of poverty level <sup>2,5,6</sup>						
Hispanic or Latino:						
Below 100%	29.2	25.3	16.7	16.3	14.4	9.5
100%–199%	29.5	22.0	14.1	16.0	11.8	7.4
200%–399%	23.7	23.6	13.3	15.9	12.0	5.9
400% or more	19.7	18.1	9.9	13.6	9.4	5.5
Not Hispanic or Latino:						
White only:						
Below 100%	44.2	40.7	36.8	37.8	38.3	37.0
100%–199%	36.3	37.5	30.6	31.1	32.0	25.8
200%–399%	26.4	28.5	20.5	23.7	24.8	17.8
400% or more	22.5	19.1	11.0	19.5	17.1	8.2
Black or African American only:						
Below 100%	43.5	40.6	34.4	28.9	27.7	21.4
100%–199%	36.0	33.9	25.6	20.3	21.3	14.9
200%–399%	31.4	24.9	18.8	21.4	17.3	9.4
400% or more	24.3	17.9	9.6	19.2	12.6	6.6
Level of difficulty <sup>2,7</sup>						
A lot of difficulty or cannot do at all	---	---	25.0	---	---	25.0
Some difficulty	---	---	21.9	---	---	17.0
No difficulty	---	---	14.5	---	---	10.2
25 years and over, age-adjusted <sup>8</sup>						
Education, Hispanic origin, and race <sup>5,9</sup>						
No high school diploma or GED:						
Hispanic or Latino	30.2	24.3	18.3	15.8	12.1	7.0
Not Hispanic or Latino:						
White only	46.1	43.5	42.7	40.4	39.3	42.8
Black or African American only	45.4	40.0	38.9	31.3	29.4	26.1
High school diploma or GED:						
Hispanic or Latino	29.6	24.1	12.3	18.4	12.5	8.6
Not Hispanic or Latino:						
White only	32.9	31.8	29.5	28.4	29.2	27.3
Black or African American only	38.2	31.4	25.8	25.4	23.0	14.3

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Characteristic	Male			Female		
	1990–1992 <sup>1</sup>	1999–2001	2015–2017	1990–1992 <sup>1</sup>	1999–2001	2015–2017
25 years and over, age-adjusted <sup>9</sup>	Percent of adults who were current cigarette smokers <sup>3</sup>					
Some college or more:						
Hispanic or Latino	20.4	17.1	10.4	14.3	11.1	7.5
Not Hispanic or Latino:						
White only	19.3	17.6	12.1	18.1	16.7	11.5
Black or African American only	25.6	19.2	15.4	22.8	16.9	10.8

--- Data not available.

\* Estimates are considered unreliable. Starting with 2014–2016 data, the reliability of survey percentage estimates was assessed using new multistep National Center for Health Statistics data presentation standards for proportions. Prior to 2014–2016 data, the reliability of estimates for earlier years was evaluated based on relative standard errors (RSE). Data preceded by an asterisk have an RSE of 20%–30%. Data not shown have an RSE greater than 30%. For more information, see Appendix II, Data presentation standards for proportions; Relative standard error (RSE).

<sup>1</sup>Data prior to 1997 are not strictly comparable with data for later years due to the 1997 questionnaire redesign. See Appendix I, National Health Interview Survey (NHIS).

<sup>2</sup>Estimates are age-adjusted to the year 2000 standard population using five age groups: 18–24 years, 25–34 years, 35–44 years, 45–64 years, and 65 years and over. For age groups where smoking is 0% or 100%, the age-adjustment procedure was modified to substitute the percentage smoking from the previous 3-year period. Age-adjusted estimates in this table may differ from other age-adjusted estimates based on the same data and presented elsewhere if different age groups are used in the adjustment procedure. See Appendix II, Age adjustment.

<sup>3</sup>Starting with 1993 data, current cigarette smokers were defined as ever smoking 100 cigarettes in their lifetime and smoking now every day or some days. For the previous definition, see Appendix II, Cigarette smoking.

<sup>4</sup>Includes all other races not shown separately, unknown education level, and unknown disability measure.

<sup>5</sup>The race groups white, black, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, and 2 or more races include persons of Hispanic and non-Hispanic origin. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race. Starting with 1999 data, race-specific estimates are tabulated according to the 1997 *Revisions to the Standards for the Classification of Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity* and are not strictly comparable with estimates for earlier years. The five single-race categories and multiple-race categories shown in the table conform to the 1997 Standards. Starting with 1999 data, race-specific estimates are for persons who reported only one racial group; the category 2 or more races includes persons who reported more than one racial group. Prior to 1999, data were tabulated according to the 1977 Standards with four racial groups, and the Asian only category included Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander. Estimates for single-race categories prior to 1999 included persons who reported one race, or if they reported more than one race, identified one race as best representing their race. Starting with 2003 data, race responses of other race and unspecified multiple race were treated as missing, and then race was imputed if these were the only race responses. Almost all persons with a race response of other race were of Hispanic origin. See Appendix II, Hispanic origin; Race.

<sup>6</sup>Percent of poverty level is based on family income and family size and composition using U.S. Census Bureau poverty thresholds. Missing family income data were imputed for 1990 and beyond. See Appendix II, Family income; Poverty; Table VII.

<sup>7</sup>Functional limitation is defined by the reported level of difficulty in six functioning domains: seeing (even if wearing glasses), hearing (even if wearing hearing aids), mobility (walking or climbing stairs), communication (understanding or being understood by others), cognition (remembering or concentrating), and self-care (such as washing all over or dressing). Respondents with answers to one or more of the six questions were included in one of three mutually exclusive categories. Those responding "A lot of difficulty" or "Cannot do at all/unable to do" to at least one question were classified in the "A lot of difficulty/cannot do" category. Of the remaining, those responding "Some difficulty" to at least one question were classified in the "Some difficulty" category, and those responding "No difficulty" to at least one question were classified in the "No difficulty" category. Those responding "Don't know" or "Refused" to all six questions were excluded. During 2010–2017, 1%–8% of respondents were missing data and excluded. See Appendix II, Functional limitation.

<sup>8</sup>Estimates are age-adjusted to the year 2000 standard population using four age groups: 25–34 years, 35–44 years, 45–64 years, and 65 years and over. Age-adjusted estimates in this table may differ from other age-adjusted estimates based on the same data and presented elsewhere if different age groups are used in the adjustment procedure. See Appendix II, Age adjustment.

<sup>9</sup>Education categories shown are for 1997 and subsequent years. GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma. In years prior to 1997, the following categories based on number of years of school completed were used: less than 12 years, 12 years, and 13 years or more. See Appendix II, Education.

NOTES: Standard errors for selected years are available in the spreadsheet version of this table. Data for additional years are available. See the Excel spreadsheet on the *Health, United States* website at: <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hus.htm>.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Health Interview Survey. Data are from the following questionnaire supplements: health promotion and disease prevention (1990–1991), cancer control and cancer epidemiology (1992), and year 2000 objectives (1993–1995). Starting with 1997, data are from the family core and sample adult questionnaires. Data for level of difficulty are from the 2010 Quality of Life and 2011–2017 Functioning and Disability questionnaires, family core. See Appendix I, National Health Interview Survey (NHIS).