

Table 17. Current cigarette smoking among adults aged 18 and over, by sex, race, and age: United States, selected years 1965–2017

Excel version (with more data years and standard errors when available): https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hus/contents2018.htm#Table_017.

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

Sex, race, and age	1965 ¹	1979 ¹	1985 ¹	1990 ¹	2000	2005	2010	2014	2015	2016	2017
18 years and over, age-adjusted ²		Percent of adults who were current cigarette smokers ³									
All persons	41.9	33.3	29.9	25.3	23.1	20.8	19.3	17.0	15.3	15.7	14.1
Male	51.2	37.0	32.2	28.0	25.2	23.4	21.2	19.0	16.8	17.7	16.0
Female	33.7	30.1	27.9	22.9	21.1	18.3	17.5	15.1	13.8	13.7	12.3
White male ⁴	50.4	36.4	31.3	27.6	25.4	23.3	21.4	18.8	16.8	17.5	16.0
Black or African American male ⁴	58.8	43.9	40.2	32.8	25.7	25.9	23.3	21.7	20.3	20.3	18.5
White female ⁴	33.9	30.3	27.9	23.5	22.0	19.1	18.3	16.0	14.8	14.4	13.0
Black or African American female ⁴	31.8	30.5	30.9	20.8	20.7	17.1	16.6	13.4	13.2	13.2	11.5
18 years and over, crude											
All persons	42.4	33.5	30.1	25.5	23.2	20.9	19.3	16.8	15.1	15.5	14.0
Male	51.9	37.5	32.6	28.4	25.6	23.9	21.5	18.8	16.7	17.5	15.8
Female	33.9	29.9	27.9	22.8	20.9	18.1	17.3	14.8	13.6	13.5	12.2
White male ⁴	51.1	36.8	31.7	28.0	25.7	23.6	21.4	18.5	16.5	17.2	15.7
Black or African American male ⁴	60.4	44.1	39.9	32.5	26.2	26.5	24.3	21.8	20.6	20.0	18.4
White female ⁴	34.0	30.1	27.7	23.4	21.4	18.7	17.9	15.5	14.3	14.0	12.8
Black or African American female ⁴	33.7	31.1	31.0	21.2	20.8	17.3	17.0	13.5	13.1	13.2	11.7
All males											
18–44 years	57.9	40.4	35.2	31.4	29.2	27.1	23.9	21.7	18.5	19.1	17.4
18–24 years	54.1	35.0	28.0	26.6	28.1	28.0	22.8	18.5	15.0	14.7	12.0
25–34 years	60.7	43.9	38.2	31.6	28.9	27.7	26.1	23.7	21.3	20.7	19.9
35–44 years	58.2	41.8	37.6	34.5	30.2	26.0	22.5	22.0	18.3	20.6	18.7
45–64 years	51.9	39.3	33.4	29.3	26.4	25.2	23.2	19.4	17.9	19.3	17.4
45–54 years	55.9	42.0	34.9	32.1	28.8	28.1	25.2	19.9	18.3	19.1	17.5
55–64 years	46.6	36.4	31.9	25.9	22.6	21.1	20.7	18.8	17.5	19.7	17.3
65 years and over	28.5	20.9	19.6	14.6	10.2	8.9	9.7	9.8	9.7	10.1	9.0
White male ⁴											
18–44 years	57.1	40.0	34.6	31.3	30.2	27.7	24.6	21.7	18.9	19.4	17.4
18–24 years	53.0	34.3	28.4	27.4	30.4	29.7	23.8	20.0	15.6	15.5	12.7
25–34 years	60.1	43.6	37.3	31.6	29.7	27.7	26.6	23.4	20.9	20.9	19.9
35–44 years	57.3	41.3	36.6	33.5	30.6	26.3	23.1	21.2	19.1	20.6	18.2
45–64 years	51.3	38.3	32.1	28.7	25.8	24.5	22.5	19.0	17.3	18.8	17.7
45–54 years	55.3	40.9	33.7	31.3	28.0	27.4	24.5	19.7	17.8	18.7	19.0
55–64 years	46.1	35.3	30.5	25.6	22.5	20.4	20.1	18.2	16.9	18.8	16.4
65 years and over	27.7	20.5	18.9	13.7	9.8	7.9	9.6	9.4	9.3	9.1	8.4
Black or African American male ⁴											
18–44 years	66.3	45.2	39.6	32.9	25.5	25.1	22.6	22.2	20.2	19.5	20.1
18–24 years	62.8	40.2	27.2	21.3	20.9	21.6	18.8	*13.9	*15.9	10.6	*
25–34 years	68.4	47.5	45.6	33.8	23.2	29.8	25.7	28.0	26.0	23.2	25.1
35–44 years	67.3	48.6	45.0	42.0	30.7	23.3	22.6	24.0	17.9	23.3	21.7
45–64 years	57.9	50.0	46.1	36.7	32.2	32.4	31.8	24.0	22.8	21.1	17.1
45–54 years	62.4	51.5	47.7	42.0	35.6	33.9	33.2	22.5	20.5	21.8	12.2
55–64 years	51.8	47.9	44.4	30.2	26.3	29.8	29.6	25.9	25.5	20.3	22.1
65 years and over	36.4	26.2	27.7	21.5	14.2	16.8	10.0	13.9	16.0	19.1	15.1

Table 17. Current cigarette smoking among adults aged 18 and over, by sex, race, and age: United States, selected years 1965–2017

Excel version (with more data years and standard errors when available): https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hus/contents2018.htm#Table_017.

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

Sex, race, and age	1965 ¹	1979 ¹	1985 ¹	1990 ¹	2000	2005	2010	2014	2015	2016	2017
All females											
Percent of adults who were current cigarette smokers ³											
18–44 years	42.1	34.7	31.4	25.6	24.5	21.2	19.1	16.6	14.5	13.8	11.9
18–24 years	38.1	33.8	30.4	22.5	24.9	20.7	17.4	14.8	11.0	11.5	8.8
25–34 years	43.7	33.7	32.0	28.2	22.3	21.5	20.6	17.5	15.0	13.9	13.0
35–44 years	43.7	37.0	31.5	24.8	26.2	21.3	19.0	17.0	16.5	15.4	12.9
45–64 years	32.0	30.7	29.9	24.8	21.7	18.8	19.1	16.8	16.1	16.8	15.6
45–54 years	37.5	32.6	32.4	28.5	22.2	20.9	21.3	18.7	18.4	18.5	15.2
55–64 years	25.0	28.6	27.4	20.5	20.9	16.1	16.5	14.8	13.7	15.0	16.0
65 years and over	9.6	13.2	13.5	11.5	9.3	8.3	9.3	7.5	7.3	7.7	7.5
White female ⁴											
18–44 years	42.2	35.1	31.6	26.5	26.5	22.6	20.5	17.8	15.7	14.6	13.1
18–24 years	38.4	34.5	31.8	25.4	28.5	22.6	18.4	16.5	11.2	12.5	10.2
25–34 years	43.4	34.1	32.0	28.5	24.9	23.1	22.0	18.6	16.3	14.2	14.4
35–44 years	43.9	37.2	31.0	25.0	26.6	22.2	20.5	18.0	18.3	16.7	13.7
45–64 years	32.7	30.6	29.7	25.4	21.4	18.9	19.5	17.6	17.1	17.4	15.8
45–54 years	38.2	32.5	32.4	29.1	21.9	21.0	22.4	19.9	20.2	19.6	16.4
55–64 years	25.7	28.5	27.2	21.2	20.6	16.2	15.9	15.3	14.0	15.3	15.2
65 years and over	9.8	13.8	13.3	11.5	9.1	8.4	9.4	7.6	7.5	7.6	7.8
Black or African American female ⁴											
18–44 years	42.9	34.7	33.5	22.8	20.8	16.9	17.1	13.9	13.3	13.0	9.9
18–24 years	37.1	31.8	23.7	10.0	14.2	14.2	14.2	*9.3	*8.6	7.6	*
25–34 years	47.8	35.2	36.2	29.1	15.5	16.9	19.3	15.1	14.9	14.5	10.4
35–44 years	42.8	37.7	40.2	25.5	30.2	19.0	17.2	16.4	15.4	15.5	12.3
45–64 years	25.7	34.2	33.4	22.6	25.6	21.0	19.8	15.0	14.5	15.6	16.7
45–54 years	32.3	36.2	36.4	26.5	26.5	22.2	20.4	15.7	14.7	15.8	11.9
55–64 years	16.5	31.9	29.8	17.6	24.2	19.1	18.9	14.2	14.3	15.5	21.8
65 years and over	7.1	*8.5	14.5	11.1	10.2	10.0	9.4	8.1	9.7	8.7	7.1

* Estimates are considered unreliable. Starting with 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 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).

¹Data 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).

²Estimates 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. 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.

³Starting with 1993 data (shown in spreadsheet version), 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 I, Tobacco use.

⁴The race groups white and black include persons of Hispanic and non-Hispanic origin. 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 single-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. Prior to 1999, data were tabulated according to the 1977 Standards. 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.

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 core questionnaire (1965) and the following questionnaire supplements: hypertension (1974), smoking (1979), alcohol and health practices (1983), health promotion and disease prevention (1985, 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. See Appendix I, National Health Interview Survey (NHIS).