

Table 60. Age-adjusted prevalence of current cigarette smoking by persons 25 years of age and over, according to sex, race, and education: United States, selected years 1974–2001

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

<i>Sex, race, and education</i>	1974	1979	1983	1985	1990	1995	1997 ¹	1998 ¹	1999 ¹	2000 ¹	2001 ¹
25 years and over, age adjusted ²	Percent of persons who are current cigarette smokers ³										
All persons ⁴	36.9	33.1	31.6	30.0	25.4	24.5	24.0	23.4	22.7	22.6	22.1
No high school diploma or GED	43.7	40.7	40.7	40.8	36.7	35.6	33.5	34.4	32.2	31.9	30.9
High school diploma or GED	36.2	33.6	33.5	32.0	29.1	29.1	29.9	28.9	28.0	29.2	28.2
Some college, no bachelor's degree	35.9	33.2	30.3	29.5	23.4	22.6	23.7	23.5	23.3	21.7	22.3
Bachelor's degree or higher	27.2	22.6	20.5	18.5	13.9	13.6	11.4	10.9	11.1	10.9	10.8
All males ⁴	42.9	37.3	35.1	32.8	28.2	26.4	26.4	25.1	24.5	24.8	23.9
No high school diploma or GED	52.3	47.6	47.1	45.7	42.0	39.7	39.1	37.5	36.2	36.4	34.7
High school diploma or GED	42.4	38.9	37.4	35.5	33.1	32.7	32.2	32.0	30.4	32.1	30.3
Some college, no bachelor's degree	41.8	36.5	33.3	32.9	25.9	23.7	25.5	25.4	24.8	23.3	24.4
Bachelor's degree or higher	28.3	22.7	21.7	19.6	14.5	13.8	12.5	11.0	11.8	11.6	11.2
White males ^{4,5}	41.9	36.7	34.4	31.7	27.6	25.9	25.8	24.8	24.2	24.7	23.8
No high school diploma or GED	51.5	47.6	47.7	45.0	41.8	38.7	38.5	37.4	36.3	38.6	35.4
High school diploma or GED	42.0	38.5	37.0	34.8	32.9	32.9	31.8	32.2	30.5	32.5	30.5
Some college, no bachelor's degree	41.6	36.4	32.9	32.2	25.4	23.3	25.6	25.2	24.7	23.6	24.6
Bachelor's degree or higher	27.8	22.5	21.0	19.1	14.4	13.4	12.0	10.9	11.8	11.3	11.2
Black or African American males ^{4,5}	53.4	44.4	42.8	42.1	34.5	31.6	33.8	30.4	29.1	26.5	28.4
No high school diploma or GED	58.1	49.7	46.0	50.5	41.6	41.9	44.6	42.9	43.8	38.3	37.9
High school diploma or GED	*50.7	48.6	47.7	41.8	37.4	36.6	39.0	32.8	32.5	29.1	33.4
Some college, no bachelor's degree	*45.3	39.2	44.9	41.8	28.1	26.4	27.0	28.4	23.4	20.0	24.2
Bachelor's degree or higher	*41.4	*36.8	*31.7	*32.0	*20.8	*17.3	14.5	*15.3	11.3	14.7	11.3
All females ⁴	32.0	29.5	28.5	27.5	22.9	22.9	21.7	21.7	20.9	20.6	20.4
No high school diploma or GED	36.6	34.8	35.2	36.5	31.8	31.7	28.2	31.3	28.2	27.3	27.2
High school diploma or GED	32.2	29.8	30.7	29.5	26.1	26.4	27.9	26.2	25.9	26.7	26.5
Some college, no bachelor's degree	30.1	30.0	27.3	26.3	21.0	21.6	22.0	21.8	21.9	20.4	20.5
Bachelor's degree or higher	25.9	22.5	18.9	17.1	13.3	13.3	10.3	10.7	10.4	10.1	10.5
White females ^{4,5}	31.7	29.7	28.6	27.3	23.3	23.1	21.9	22.3	21.4	21.1	21.4
No high school diploma or GED	36.8	35.8	35.6	36.7	33.4	32.4	29.7	33.0	29.5	28.6	29.6
High school diploma or GED	31.9	29.9	30.8	29.4	26.5	26.8	28.3	27.1	27.2	27.9	28.4
Some college, no bachelor's degree	30.4	30.7	27.8	26.7	21.2	22.2	22.1	22.2	22.3	21.1	21.3
Bachelor's degree or higher	25.5	21.9	18.7	16.5	13.4	13.5	10.5	11.5	10.5	10.2	10.9
Black or African American females ^{4,5}	35.6	30.3	31.2	32.0	22.4	25.7	24.1	23.0	21.4	21.6	19.1
No high school diploma or GED	36.1	31.6	36.5	39.4	26.3	32.3	27.1	32.8	30.1	31.2	26.3
High school diploma or GED	40.9	32.6	34.6	32.1	24.1	27.8	29.1	24.3	22.4	25.4	21.3
Some college, no bachelor's degree	32.3	*28.9	*27.1	23.9	22.7	20.8	24.3	21.7	22.3	20.4	17.4
Bachelor's degree or higher	*36.3	*43.3	*36.8	26.6	17.0	17.3	12.5	9.0	13.4	10.8	11.6

* Estimates are considered unreliable. Data preceded by an asterisk have a relative standard error of 20–30 percent.
¹Data starting in 1997 are not strictly comparable with data for earlier years due to the 1997 questionnaire redesign. See Appendix I, National Health Interview Survey. Cigarette smoking data were not collected in 1996.
²Estimates are age adjusted to the year 2000 standard population using four age groups: 25–34 years, 35–44 years, 45–64 years, 65 years and over. See Appendix II, Age adjustment. For age groups where percent smoking was 0 or 100, the age-adjustment procedure was modified to substitute the percent smoking from the next lower education group.
³Beginning in 1993 current cigarette smokers reported ever smoking 100 cigarettes in their lifetime and smoking now on every day or some days. See Appendix II, Cigarette smoking.
⁴Includes unknown education. Education categories shown are for 1997 and subsequent years. GED stands for General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma. In 1974–95 the following categories based on number of years of school completed were used: less than 12 years, 12 years, 13–15 years, 16 years or more. See Appendix II, Education.
⁵The race groups, white and black, include persons of Hispanic and non-Hispanic origin. Starting with data year 1999 race-specific estimates are tabulated according to 1997 Standards for 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 1997 Standards. The 1999 race-specific estimates are for persons who reported only one racial group. Prior to data year 1999, data were tabulated according to 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. The effect of the 1997 Standard on the 1999 estimates can be seen by comparing 1999 data tabulated according to the two Standards: Age-adjusted estimates based on the 1977 Standards of the percent of current smokers are: identical for white males; 0.2 percentage points higher for black males and females; and 0.1 percentage points higher for white females than estimates based on the 1997 Standards. See Appendix II, Race. For additional data on cigarette smoking by racial groups, see table 61 of *Health, United States, 2003*.

NOTES: Data for additional years are available (see Appendix III). Standard errors for selected years are available in the spreadsheet version of this table. See www.cdc.gov/nchs/hus.htm. For more data on cigarette smoking see the National Health Interview Survey home page: www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis.htm.

SOURCES: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, National Health Interview Survey. Data are from the following questionnaire supplements: hypertension (1974), smoking (1979), alcohol and health practices (1983), health promotion and disease prevention (1985, 1990–91), cancer control and cancer epidemiology (1992), and year 2000 objectives (1993–95). Starting in 1997 data are from the family core and sample adult questionnaires.