More than 16 million Americans live with a smoking-related disease.¹

Cigarette smoking is the leading cause of preventable disease and death in the United States, accounting for more than 480,000 deaths every year or 1 of every 5 deaths.¹

Current smoking has declined from nearly 21 of every 100 adults (20.9%) in 2005 to more than 15 of every 100 adults (15.5%) in 2016.²

In 2016, more than 15 of every 100 U.S. adults aged 18 years or older currently smoked cigarettes.*

*Current smokers are defined as persons who reported smoking at least 100 cigarettes during their lifetime and who, at the time they participated in a survey about this topic, reported smoking every day or some days.
Current cigarette smoking was highest among non-Hispanic American Indians/Alaska Natives and people of multiple races and lowest among Asians.

Nearly 32 of every 100 non-Hispanic American Indians/Alaska Natives

About 25 of every 100 non-Hispanic multiple race individuals

*Non-Hispanic Asians do not include Native Hawaiians or Other Pacific Islanders.
Current cigarette smoking was higher among persons living below the poverty* level than those living at or above this level.

About 25 of every 100 adults who live below the poverty level

About 14 of every 100 adults who live at or above the poverty level

*Poverty thresholds are based on U.S. Census Bureau data.

Nearly 19 of every 100 adults who live in the Midwest

Nearly 17 of every 100 adults who live in the South

About 13 of every 100 adults who live in the Northeast

About 12 of every 100 adults who live in the West

Current cigarette smoking was highest in the Midwest and lowest in the West.

Current cigarette smoking was highest among persons with a graduate education degree (GED) certificate and lowest among those with a graduate degree.

About 24 of every 100 adults with 12 or fewer years of education (no diploma) (24.1%)

Nearly 20 of every 100 adults with a high school diploma (19.7%)

Nearly 17 of every 100 adults with an associate’s degree (16.8%)

Nearly 19 of every 100 adults with some college (no degree) (18.9%)

Nearly 8 of every 100 adults with an undergraduate degree (7.7%)

Nearly 5 of every 100 adults with a graduate degree (4.5%)

Nearly 41 of every 100 adults with a GED certificate

BY EDUCATION

Current cigarette smoking was higher among persons living below the poverty* level than those living at or above this level.

14.3%

About 14 of every 100 adults who live at or above the poverty level

25.3%

About 25 of every 100 adults who live below the poverty level

*Poverty thresholds are based on U.S. Census Bureau data.
Current cigarette smoking was higher among persons with a disability/limitation than among those with no disability/limitation.

21.2%  
About 21 of every 100 adults who reported having a disability/limitation

14.4%  
About 14 of every 100 adults who reported having no disability/limitation

BY SEXUAL ORIENTATION

Lesbian/gay/bisexual adults were more likely to be current smokers than straight adults.

20.5%  
Nearly 21 of every 100 lesbian/gay/bisexual adults

15.3%  
About 15 of every 100 straight adults

REFERENCES
