

Adult Cigarette Smoking in Connecticut: Current Estimates

Tobacco Use Prevention and Control Program — September 2014

Overview

- An estimated 436,000 people, or 15.5% of all adults (aged 18 years or older), in Connecticut smoke cigarettes. Cigarette smoking is more common among men (16.8%) than women (14.3%).
- Each year in Connecticut, 4,300 adults die from their own smoking.²
- Overall smoking prevalence declined slightly from 2012 (16.0%) to 2013 (15.5%).³
- Among adults who ever tried cigarettes, 35.4% are current cigarette smokers.¹
- Among current cigarette smokers, 11.4% are heavy drinkers, while among non-smokers, the rate is 5.4%.¹

2013 Connecticut Estimates

Percentage of adults who were current cigarette smokers in 2013:1

Overall

- 15.5% of adults are current smokers
- Represents about 436,000 people

By Sex

- 16.8% of adult men
- 14.3% of adult women

By Race/Ethnicity

- 14.3% of non-Hispanic whites
- 19.9% of non-Hispanic blacks
- 19.9% of Hispanics
- 11.6% of other non-Hispanic races

Key Points:

- The prevalence of cigarette smoking is higher among men than among women.
- Adults with less than a high school education are 3.5 times more likely than college educated adults to smoke.
- The rate of cigarette smoking is significantly lower in households with annual incomes of \$75,000 or more than it is in any other income group.
- Cigarette smokers are twice as likely as non-smokers to be heavy drinkers.





- 23.8% of adults aged 25-34 years
- 17.7% of adults aged 35-44 years
- 18.5% of adults aged 45-54 years
- 14.9% of adults aged 55-64 years
- 7.4% of adults aged 65 years or older

By Education

- 25.5% of adults with 12 or fewer years of education (no diploma)
- 21.0% of adults with a high school or GED diploma
- 15.5% of adults with some post-high school education
- 7.3% of adults with a college degree



By Annual Household Income

- 26.1% of adults in households with less than \$25,000 per year
- 19.9% of adults in households with \$25,000-\$34,999 per year
- 21.1% of adults in households with \$35,000-\$49,999 per year
- 15.0% of adults in households with \$50,000-\$74,999 per year
- 9.3% of adults in households with \$75,000 or more per year

For Further Information

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Or Visit: www.ct.gov/dph/tobacco

References

¹Results from the Connecticut Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS); 2013.

Notes:

Adult current smokers are defined as persons who reported smoking at least 100 cigarettes during their lifetime and who, at the time of the interview, reported smoking some days or every day.

Heavy drinkers are defined as men who have more than two alcoholic drinks per day or women who have more than one alcoholic drink per day.

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²Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids; <u>www.tobaccofreekids.org/facts_issues/toll_us/Connecticut</u>.

³Results from the CT BRFSS; 2012-2013.