

### Overview

- An estimated 434,000 people, or 15.4% of all adults (18 years of age or older), in Connecticut smoke cigarettes. Cigarette smoking is significantly higher among men (17.5%) than among women (13.5%).<sup>1</sup>
- The prevalence of cigarette smoking is significantly higher among Hispanics (20.6%) than among non-Hispanic whites (14.1%).<sup>1</sup>
- Each year in Connecticut, 4,900 adults die from their own smoking.<sup>2</sup>
- Between 2012 and 2014, overall smoking prevalence declined slightly from 16.0% to 15.4%.<sup>3</sup>
- Among adults who ever tried cigarettes, 35.8% are current cigarette smokers.<sup>1</sup>
- Among current cigarette smokers, 11.1% are heavy drinkers, while among non-smokers, the rate is significantly lower (4.7%).<sup>1</sup>

### 2014 Connecticut Estimates

#### Percentage of adults who were current cigarette smokers in 2014 (Table 1):<sup>1</sup>

##### Overall

- 15.4% of adults are current smokers
- Represents about 434,000 people

##### By Sex

- 17.5% of adult men
- 13.5% of adult women

##### By Race/Ethnicity

- 14.1% of non-Hispanic whites
- 18.5% of non-Hispanic blacks
- 20.6% of Hispanics
- 16.0% of other non-Hispanic races

##### Key Points:

- The prevalence of cigarette smoking is significantly higher among men than among women.
- Adults with less than a high school education are nearly 3 times more likely than college educated adults to smoke.
- The rate of cigarette smoking is significantly higher in households with annual incomes of <\$25,000 than in every income group of \$35,000 or more.
- Cigarette smokers are more than twice as likely as non-smokers to be heavy drinkers.

##### By Age

- 13.0% of adults aged 18-24 years
- 24.4% of adults aged 25-34 years
- 17.9% of adults aged 35-44 years
- 18.4% of adults aged 45-54 years
- 13.8% of adults aged 55-64 years
- 7.0% of adults aged 65 years or older

##### By Education

- 26.3% of adults with 12 or fewer years of education (no diploma)
- 20.9% of adults with a high school or GED diploma
- 16.0% of adults with some post-high school education
- 6.7% of adults with a college degree



##### By Annual Household Income

- 25.6% of adults in households with less than \$25,000 per year
- 20.1% of adults in households with \$25,000-\$34,999 per year
- 18.1% of adults in households with \$35,000-\$49,999 per year
- 14.7% of adults in households with \$50,000-\$74,999 per year
- 9.4% of adults in households with \$75,000 or more per year

Table 1

Current Cigarette Smoking Among Connecticut Adults—2014		
Demographic Characteristics	%	95% Confidence Interval
Overall	15.4	(14.2-16.6)
<b>Sex</b>		
Male	17.5	(15.5-19.4)
Female	13.5	(11.9-15.0)
<b>Age</b>		
18-24	13.0	(8.7-17.3)
25-34	24.4	(20.3-28.6)
35-44	17.9	(14.4-21.3)
45-54	18.4	(15.7-21.1)
55-64	13.8	(11.5-16.2)
65+	7.0	(5.5-8.4)
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>		
Non-Hispanic White	14.1	(12.7-15.5)
Non-Hispanic Black	18.5	(14.0-22.9)
Hispanic	20.6	(16.4-24.8)
Non-Hispanic Other	16.0	(10.4-21.5)
<b>Annual Household Income</b>		
Less than \$25,000	25.6	(22.3-28.8)
\$25,000 - \$34,999	20.1	(14.8-25.5)
\$35,000 - \$49,999	18.1	(14.0-22.2)
\$50,000 - \$74,999	14.7	(11.0-18.4)
\$75,000+	9.4	(7.6-11.1)
<b>Education</b>		
Less than High School (no diploma)	26.3	(20.9-31.6)
High School or GED Diploma	20.9	(18.2-23.5)
Some College or Tech School	16.0	(13.7-18.3)
College Graduate	6.7	(5.6-7.8)

Data source: 2014 CT Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System

## For Further Information

Connecticut Department of Public Health  
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Or Visit: [www.ct.gov/dph/tobacco](http://www.ct.gov/dph/tobacco)

## References

- <sup>1</sup>Results from the Connecticut Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS); 2014.  
<sup>2</sup>Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids; [www.tobaccofreekids.org/facts\\_issues/toll\\_us/Connecticut](http://www.tobaccofreekids.org/facts_issues/toll_us/Connecticut).  
<sup>3</sup>Results from the CT BRFSS; 2012-2014.

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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