

Cigarette Smoking Statistics

In the United States, an estimated 25.1 million men (23.4 percent) and 20.9 million women (18.5 percent) are smokers. These people are at higher risk of heart attack and stroke. The latest estimates for persons age 18 and older show...*

- Among whites, 24.1 percent of men and 20.4 percent of women smoke (2004).
- Among African Americans, 23.9 percent of men and 17.2 percent of women smoke.
- Among Hispanics, 18.9 percent of men and 10.9 percent of women smoke.
- Among Asians (only), 17.8 percent of men and 4.8 percent of women smoke.
- Among American Indians/Alaska Natives, 37.3 percent of men and 28.5 percent of women smoke.
- Studies show that smoking prevalence is higher among those who had earned a GED diploma (39.6 percent) and among those with 9-11 years of education (34.0 percent) compared with those with more than 16 years of education (8.0 percent). College graduates smoke less than non-college graduates.
- Smoking is highest among persons living below the poverty level (29.1 percent).

(*) National Health Interview Survey (NHIS), 2004, National Center for Health Statistics and NHLBI

