

Tobacco Use in Kansas Adults

2012-2013 Adult Tobacco Survey

The 2012-2013 Kansas Adult Tobacco Survey (ATS) was conducted September 2012 through September 2013 by the Bureau of Health Promotion, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, with funding support from the Kansas Health Foundation. In total, 9,656 Kansas adults 18 years and older participated in the ATS. This document reviews some of the major findings from the ATS.

18 percent of Kansas adults smoke cigarettes.

- ◇ Smoking prevalence is related to education level. 31 percent of adults with no high school diploma or GED and 53 percent with a GED only currently smoke cigarettes. The smoking prevalence among adults with a bachelor's degree or higher is less than 6 percent.
- ◇ Smoking prevalence is highest in adults with low annual household incomes, ranging from 37 percent among adults with annual household incomes less than \$15,000 to 11 percent among adults with annual household incomes over \$50,000.
- ◇ The prevalence of smoking among adults who do not have health insurance (35.5%) is more than double the prevalence of smoking among adults who do have health insurance (14.6%).
- ◇ The prevalence of smoking among adults who rent or otherwise do not own a home (29.3%) is more than double the prevalence of smoking among adults who do own a home (13.8%).
- ◇ The prevalence of smoking in the LGBT population is 33.1 percent, which is significantly higher than the prevalence of smoking in the heterosexual/straight population (17.4%).
- ◇ Age of smoking initiation in Kansas is very similar to national estimates. In Kansas, 78 percent of smokers smoked a whole cigarette by age 18 and 97 percent by age 26. Nationally, 80 percent of smokers started before they were 18 and 99 percent started by age 26.

9.8 percent of male Kansas adults currently use chewing tobacco, snuff or dip.

- ◇ Smokeless tobacco use is very uncommon among women. Only 6.6 percent of women have ever tried smokeless tobacco in their life while nearly half of men (45.7%) have tried smokeless tobacco.

- ◇ Smokeless tobacco use among employed adults varies significantly by workplace setting. One in 5 Kansas adults (20.1%) who work outside use smokeless tobacco compared to only 4.2 percent of adults who work inside a building.
- ◇ Despite being a test market for dissolvable tobacco products, less than 1 percent of Kansas adults have ever tried dissolvable tobacco.
- ◇ In Kansas, 34 percent of adults who have smoked at least five packs of cigarettes in their life have used smokeless tobacco or snus because they were in a place where smoking was not allowed.

4.1 percent of Kansas adults currently smoke cigars, cigarillos or little cigars.

- ◇ Cigar use is more common among young adults than older adults: 8.9 percent of 18-24 year old adults smoke cigars compared to only 1.5 percent of adults 65 years or older.
- ◇ Cigar use is less common among adults with a bachelor's degree than adults with lower levels of education. Only 2 percent of Kansas adults with a Bachelor's degree smoke cigars, whereas 5.8 percent of adults with no high school diploma or GED, 4.4 percent of adults with a high school diploma and 4.8 percent of adults with an associate degree or some college smoke cigars.
- ◇ Similar to smokeless tobacco, cigar use is much more common among men than women: the prevalence of cigar smoking among men (6.5%) is three times higher than among women (1.8%).

11.8 percent of Kansas adults have tried electronic cigarettes.

- ◇ E-cigarette use is rising nationally and here in Kansas.
- ◇ E-cigarette use is much more common among smokers: 14 percent of current smokers also use e-cigarettes, 2.1 percent of former smokers use e-cigarettes and only 0.5 percent of never-smokers use e-cigarettes.
- ◇ Similar to smoking, e-cigarette use is more common among younger than older adults, adults with lower annual household income, and adults without health insurance.

