

Indicator: Smoking

Data Years: 2003, 2005, 2007–2008, 2009–2010, 2011–2012, 2013

Indicator Description: Age-standardized prevalence rate of population age 18 and older who reported current cigarette smoking, either daily or occasionally (per 100)

Rationale: Smoking and exposure to second-hand smoke are recognized as major risk factors for lung cancer, respiratory diseases and other health problems. Smoking is an important and preventable cause of morbidity and death in Canada.^{1,2}

Data Source: Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS), Statistics Canada

Income Disaggregator: Self-reported adjusted household income from the CCHS

Denominator Description: CCHS respondents age 18 and older

Exclusions:

1. Non-response categories (“refusal,” “don’t know” and “not stated”)
2. Respondents from the 3 territories (as income quintile data is unavailable)

Numerator Description: CCHS respondents age 18 and older who reported current smoking, either daily or occasionally

Method of Age-Standardization: Direct age-standardization to the Canada 2011 standard population

Survey Weight: Person level

Age Groupings for Standardization: 18–19; 20–24; 25–29; 30–34; 35–39; 40–44; 45–49; 50–54; 55–59; 60–64; 65–69; 70–74; 75–79; 80–84; 85–89; 90–94; 95–99; 100+

Geographic Assignment: Respondent’s province of residence according to postal code in the CCHS

Geographic Coverage: All 10 provinces (territories excluded)

Interpretation: Lower rates are desirable.

Case Selection Criteria: Respondents who reported current smoking, either daily or occasionally

Variable: SMK_202

Specific Survey Question: “At the present time, do you smoke cigarettes daily, occasionally or not at all?” (SMK_Q202)

Percentage Missing Due to Income:

	2003	2005	2007–2008	2009–2010	2011–2012	2013
Percentage Missing*	14.9	14.6	15.1	17.3	12.7	11.6

Note

* Percentage missing refers to the proportion of CCHS respondents who did not report income for this indicator and are therefore excluded from analyses based on self-reported adjusted household income quintiles.

Data Source Description:

Canadian Community Health Survey: The CCHS is a cross-sectional survey that collects information related to health status, health care utilization and health determinants for the community-dwelling Canadian population on an ongoing basis. The primary purpose of data collection is health surveillance and population health research. The CCHS target population is Canadians age 12 and older in all provinces and territories. Excluded from the sampling frame are individuals living on Indian reserves and Crown lands, institutional residents, full-time members of the Canadian Armed Forces and residents of certain remote regions (Région du Nunavik and Région des Terres-Cries-de-la-Baie-James). Altogether, these exclusions represent less than 3% of the target population.³

Sample Size: 130,000 (prior to 2007); 65,000 (2007 onward)

References

1. Baliunas D, Patra J, Rehm J, Popova S, Kaiserman M, Taylor B. Smoking-attributable mortality and expected years of life lost in Canada 2002: conclusions for prevention and policy. *Chronic Dis Can.* 2007;27(4):154-162.
2. Rehm J, Baliunas D, Brochu S, et al. *The Cost of Substance Abuse in Canada.* Ottawa, ON: Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse; 2006.
3. Statistics Canada. Canadian Community Health Survey—Annual Component (CCHS). <http://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb/p2SV.pl?Function=getSurvey&SDDS=3226>. Updated July 30, 2014. Accessed February 2, 2015.