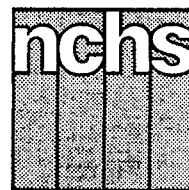


Advance Data



From Vital and Health Statistics of the CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION/National Center for Health Statistics

Teenage Tobacco Use:

Data Estimates From the Teenage Attitudes and Practices Survey, United States, 1989

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Introduction

Cigarette smoking has been identified as one of the leading preventable causes of disability and premature death in the United States (1). The relationship between smoking and disease has made the reduction in smoking prevalence one of the major public health goals of the Nation. The United States Public Health Service has set a goal that smoking prevalence in the United States be reduced to 15 percent by the year 2000 (2). Achievement of this goal will require a major reduction in the uptake of smoking by young Americans. Rates for adolescent smoking prevalence differ among various surveys (1); however, prevalence as high as 36 percent has been reported (3). Uptake of smoking by adolescents is one of the primary barriers to reducing smoking prevalence. Teenage smoking behavior has remained relatively steady throughout the 1980's, although smoking among the adult population has decreased (1).

In addition, use of smokeless tobacco products, particularly chewing tobacco and snuff, increased substantially during the 1970's and 1980's (4). National estimates indicate that at least 10 million Americans used some form of smokeless tobacco during 1991 (5), with use increasing especially among male adolescents and young male adults (1). The increased use and appeal of these products assume major public health importance because the evidence reveals that smokeless tobacco can cause oral cancer and other oral conditions and can lead to nicotine addiction and dependence. In 1986, two-thirds of men who had ever used smokeless tobacco reported having started before age 21 (1).

Chronic use of tobacco is not an all-or-none behavior. The level of use changes over time. The different levels of use can be described as an uptake continuum. Determining where adolescents are on this continuum is important in planning preventive interventions. The 1989 Teenage Attitudes and Practices

Survey (TAPS), a targeted-population study from the National Health Interview Survey, was undertaken by the National Center for Health Statistics, the Office on Smoking and Health, the National Cancer Institute, and the American Cancer Society to provide data for in-depth analysis of teenage smoking behavior and to describe the uptake continuum for sub-populations of adolescents.

Methods

The 1989 TAPS was designed with the intention of providing regular surveillance of teenage smoking behavior and attitudes beginning with the collection of baseline data in 1989 and conducting periodic cross-sectional and/or longitudinal surveys every 3-4 years. The TAPS sample included all 12-18-year-olds living in households contacted and interviewed in the last two quarters of the 1988 and the first two quarters of the 1989 National Health Interview Survey. The TAPS obtained information on prevalence and for classification by smoking



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National Center for Health Statistics



status, knowledge of smoking risks, attitudes about smoking, and correlates of smoking uptake—such as attitudes about school, risk-taking behavior, and peer smoking practices.

The primary method of data collection for the TAPS was computer assisted-telephone interviewing (CATI), whereby interviewers conducted a telephone interview by reading questions from a computer screen and recording responses electronically. Teenagers in the TAPS who were not available by telephone were sent a mail questionnaire. Overall, 9,965 interviews were completed either by telephone or mail with a resulting survey response rate of 82 percent. For a description of the survey design, see Allen, Moss, Botman, et al. (6).

This report presents frequencies and/or percent distributions for virtually all the data items from the TAPS questionnaire. It is intended to provide a convenient source of comprehensive data related to the use of tobacco products by adolescents and to encourage interested readers to undertake further analysis of the TAPS data. For other reports on the TAPS survey, see references 7–10.

Estimated percentages for the United States population of noninstitutionalized youths 12–18 years old are presented in this report by age, sex, race, ethnicity, and adolescent smoking status. Generally, except for knowledge questions that accept “don’t know” as an appropriate response, “don’t know” and other unacceptable responses have been excluded from the denominator in the calculation of the percent estimates. When possible, the actual question wording is shown along with response categories in the tables. However, many of the questions have been paraphrased or combined.

Selected findings

Table 1 shows respondents’ self-perception of peer attitudes regarding various health-risk behaviors. For most behaviors, current teenage smokers reported that their peers

cared less about behaviors that affected their health than did teenagers who had never smoked. Half of the teenagers who had never smoked cared “a lot” about staying away from drugs, compared with one in five teenagers that currently smoked. Of those who never smoked tobacco, 57 percent cared a lot about not using marijuana, compared with 23 percent of current tobacco smokers. Current smokers cared more about keeping their weight down than did those who had never smoked: 79 percent cared a lot or cared somewhat, compared with 73 percent of teenagers who had never smoked. This perception was consistent with current smokers’ response to the question “Do you believe smoking helps people keep their weight down?” (table 7); 30 percent of current smokers believed this to be true, and only 13 percent of those who had never smoked reported believing this. The functional utility of smoking was perceived to be much greater by current smokers than by those who had never smoked—current smokers also perceived their peers as caring more about controlling their weight than teenagers who had never smoked (table 1).

Among all current teenage smokers in 1989, brand preference was overwhelmingly Marlboro: 68 percent of those who usually bought their own cigarettes bought that brand. The most striking difference in brand preference among sociodemographic subgroups is shown in table 2 for race. White teenagers clearly preferred Marlboros (70 percent, versus 9 percent of black teenagers). However, black teenagers bought Newports most often (61 percent, compared with 6 percent of white teenagers). Data pertaining to the brand of choice by most adolescent current smokers also indicated a definite increase in the number of adolescents smoking Camels (11).

Regardless of age, sex, race, or ethnicity, adolescent smokers purchased cigarettes more often from small stores, such as convenience

stores, than from vending machines or large stores: 69 percent often bought cigarettes from small stores, 6 percent often bought cigarettes from vending machines, and 26 percent often bought cigarettes from large stores.

Of currently smoking teenagers who had ever seriously thought about quitting smoking, 86 percent reported having tried to quit at least once, and 76 percent of those who had ever tried to quit reported having tried to quit in the past 6 months. When asked the question “Do you think you will be smoking 1 year from now?”, more than half of all teenage smokers said they would definitely or probably not be smoking in a year. Considering the percentage of teenagers who had tried to quit and failed, especially in the past 6 months, it is somewhat surprising to note that so many current teenage smokers (54 percent) still believed that they would not be smoking in 1 year. These statistics clearly illustrate the naivete of adolescents with regard to the addictiveness of cigarette smoking.

Adolescents who had never smoked a cigarette or never tried or experimented with cigarette smoking reported on all measures of “intention to smoke” that they had no intention to smoke in the future, with very little variation by sociodemographic subgroups. When asked “Do you think you will try a cigarette soon?”, adolescents, regardless of age, were consistent in their resolve not to smoke even though their exposure to and the availability of cigarettes is shown by this data to increase with age. More than 97 percent of 16–18-year-olds, 96 percent of 14–15-year-olds, and 94 percent of 12–13-year-olds reported that they would not try a cigarette soon (table 3). At ages 12–13, only 24 percent of teenagers reported having been offered a cigarette, but more than half (54 percent) of the teenagers who had never smoked had been offered a cigarette by the time they were between 16 and 18 years of age. Older teenagers also believed it would be easy for them to get

cigarettes if they wanted some: 89 percent of 16–18-year-olds said it would be easy to get cigarettes if they wanted some, compared with 67 percent of 14–15-year-olds and only 39 percent of 12–13-year-olds.

A strong correlate of smoking uptake among adolescents is the smoking practices of family and peers (1). Of all current teenage smokers, 17 percent reported living with an older sibling who smoked, but only 5 percent of teenagers who had never smoked lived with siblings who smoked (table 4). Teenagers who smoked also reported more frequently having a parent who smoked: 46 percent of current teenage smokers reported that their parents smoked, and 36 percent of teenagers who had never smoked lived with at least one parent who smoked. Current teenage smokers associated more with other smokers than did teenagers who had never smoked. When asked the question “Of your four best male/female friends, how many smoke?”, 82 percent of current smokers reported having at least one best male friend, and 78 percent cited at least one best female friend who smoked. In response to this same question, of adolescents who had never smoked, only 20 percent reported having at least one best male friend, and 18 percent reported having at least one best female friend who smoked.

Teenagers who smoked tobacco also reported knowing more people who used chewing tobacco, snuff, marijuana, crack, or cocaine; drank alcohol; and had had sex than did teenagers who had never smoked. In addition, at least half of all current smokers said that most or all of the people they knew who were their age smoked cigarettes, drank alcohol, got drunk at least once a month, or had had sex.

School performance and attitudes about school were also strong correlates of smoking uptake among adolescents. Again, more current smokers than teenagers who had never smoked reported liking school less, doing poorly in school, and perceiving what they learned in

school as less useful to them later in life. Current smokers also missed more time from school in the 2 weeks prior to the interview and reported cutting school more often.

In table 4, a scale to measure depression was adapted for telephone interviewing from a scale originally designed for self-enumeration application (12). Teenagers who currently smoked were tired; had trouble sleeping; were sad or depressed; felt hopeless, tense, or nervous; and worried more often than teenagers who had never smoked.

Adolescents who smoked were more likely to be involved in risky behaviors, another correlate of smoking uptake, than teenagers who have never smoked. Teenage smokers were twice as likely to have been involved in one or more physical fights in the past year and ridden a motorcycle or minibike often or sometimes in the past year. Smokers were almost three times more likely to rarely or never wear seat belts and six times more likely to have ridden in a car driven by someone who had been using drugs or drinking than those teenagers who had never smoked.

Estimates from the TAPS also showed an important difference between teenagers who smoked and those who had never smoked, in terms of social and family functioning. For example:

- Seventy-eight percent of teenagers who had never smoked reported that they strongly disliked being around people who were smoking, and 94 percent preferred to date nonsmokers, but only 19 percent of current smokers strongly disliked being around others who were smoking, and 51 percent preferred to date nonsmokers.
- More than 90 percent of teenagers who smoked, compared with 57 percent who have never smoked, had had a steady boyfriend or girlfriend. Almost half of those teenage smokers reported that their boyfriend or girlfriend also smoked, but only

8 percent of teenagers who had never smoked reported having a boyfriend or girlfriend who smoked (table 4).

- Teenage smokers had more spendable income than teenagers who had never smoked. More than 45 percent of current smokers had more than \$20.00 a week to spend any way they wanted to, compared with half as many teenagers who had never smoked. Teenage smokers consequently had more money to spend for cigarettes (table 4).
- Teenagers who smoked were likely to go to a friend if they needed help with a serious problem, but teenagers who had never smoked were more likely to confide in a parent (table 4).
- Almost twice as many teenagers who smoked were left alone at home without parental or adult supervision for 10 or more hours a week as were teenagers who had never smoked (table 4).
- More than half the teenagers who smoked attended religious services rarely or never, compared with fewer than a third of teenagers who have never smoked (table 4).

As shown in table 5, prevalence for males who “ever used” and “ever regularly used” smokeless tobacco products, such as chewing tobacco or snuff, increased with age and was more common among white respondents than among black respondents, and more common among non-Hispanics than among Hispanics. When asked the question “How many of the people you know, who are about your age, use chewing tobacco or snuff?”, 14 percent of teenagers who had ever used smokeless tobacco reported that most or all of the people they knew used some form of smokeless tobacco, compared with only 3 percent of teenagers who had never used smokeless tobacco (table 6). Twenty-two percent of male teenagers had ever used chewing tobacco or snuff regularly (table 5). More than 29 percent of these teenagers reported that all or most of the

people they knew used smokeless tobacco. More than 95 percent knew that using smokeless tobacco can cause cancer (table 6).

A significant number of teenagers reported having been exposed to information related to the health risks of smoking regardless of adolescent smoking status. More than 80 percent of both current smokers and teenagers who had never smoked said they had heard or seen something in the media recently about the risks of smoking, and more than 70 percent had taken a class or course at school about the health risks of smoking (table 7). More than 80 percent of current smokers and teenagers who had never smoked also believed that almost all doctors are strongly against cigarette smoking. Despite similar knowledge levels about smoking health risks, current smokers were more likely than teenagers who had never smoked to believe that it was safe to smoke for a year or 2, that there was no harm in having an occasional cigarette, and that they could stop smoking anytime they wanted to (table 7).

What teenagers believed to be true about smoking was clearly influenced by the benefits they perceived from smoking. Current adolescent smokers were significantly more likely to believe that cigarette smoking helps people when they are bored, helps people relax, helps reduce stress, helps people feel more comfortable in social situations, and helps keep their weight down. For current teenage smokers, the perceived functional utility of smoking clearly outweighed the risks of smoking.

Discussion

These data highlight several areas of concern. For many adolescents, the perceived benefits of smoking outweighed the risks involved. Adolescent smokers appeared to overestimate their ability to quit smoking. As reported, quit attempts

are often met with failure, a symptom of nicotine addiction (13). In addition, the ease of adolescent access to cigarettes, shown in the TAPS and elsewhere (14,15), highlights the need for better control of tobacco sales to minors.

The United States Public Health Service is committed to reducing the initiation of tobacco use among our Nation's youth (2). One national health objective (Objective 3.10) calls for the establishment of tobacco-free environments and the inclusion of tobacco-use prevention in the curricula of all elementary, middle, and secondary schools, preferably as part of quality school health education (2). Another goal (Objective 3.13) is to enact and enforce laws that prohibit the sale of tobacco products to minors in all 50 States and the District of Columbia (2). As of September 1992, 49 States and the District of Columbia had laws in place restricting the sale of tobacco products to minors (CDC, unpublished data). Although there appears to be widespread support for effective minors' access laws (16), such laws are only rarely enforced (17).

Many perceptions of adolescents about cigarette smoking may result from image-based advertisements (1,2,11). The national health objectives also call for the elimination or severe restriction of tobacco-product advertising and promotion to which youths are likely to be exposed (Objective 3.15) (2). Other effective strategies may include the development of statewide tobacco-control plans to reduce tobacco use, especially among youth (Objective 3.14) (2) and raising state excise taxes on tobacco products (1,18). Progress in the reduction of tobacco-use initiation among adolescents will be enhanced by cooperative efforts among local and state health and education officials, parents, physicians and other health care providers, media, legislators, regulatory agencies, and community youth organizations (3).

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Symbols

- - - Data not available
 - . . . Category not applicable
 - Quantity zero
 - 0.0 Quantity more than zero but less than 0.05
 - Z Quantity more than zero but less than 500 where numbers are rounded to thousands
 - * Figure does not meet standard of reliability or precision
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Table 1. Number and percent distribution of teenagers by perceived peer risk behaviors, according to adolescent smoking status: United States, 1989

Perceived peer risk behaviors	Adolescent smoking status										
	All statuses	Never smoked				Experimenter	Former smoker	Current smoker			Occasional
		All never smoked	No intention	May smoke	All current smokers ¹			Heavy	Light		
	Number in thousands										
All teenagers ²	23,528	12,561	10,098	1,615	6,826	342	3,688	1,619	632	1,206	
Care about wearing seat belts											
Don't care	13,445	6,782	5,390	956	4,045	226	2,332	1,131	358	709	
Care a lot	2,236	1,263	1,035	119	642	45	274	90	*19	133	
Care somewhat	4,919	2,741	2,340	269	1,400	53	717	244	181	252	
Care a little	2,495	1,537	1,241	247	625	*15	304	126	53	101	
Care about keeping weight down											
Don't care	2,964	1,709	1,292	271	822	*33	377	153	57	134	
Care a lot	12,272	6,297	5,265	685	3,613	197	2,114	915	434	644	
Care somewhat	5,455	2,882	2,276	404	1,677	90	793	394	85	265	
Care a little	2,447	1,441	1,166	228	625	*16	354	130	46	152	
Care about staying away from drugs											
Don't care	4,821	1,842	1,459	236	1,552	122	1,277	681	218	328	
Care a lot	9,306	6,184	5,120	723	2,302	54	721	260	96	301	
Care somewhat	6,842	3,258	2,673	428	2,243	126	1,195	510	193	413	
Care a little	1,835	955	727	197	505	*21	352	112	75	128	
Care about not getting high on alcohol											
Don't care	11,070	4,783	3,915	590	3,640	213	2,402	1,129	377	753	
Care a lot	5,013	3,654	3,015	418	932	*32	370	144	71	136	
Care somewhat	4,364	2,445	2,028	319	1,285	63	552	196	112	202	
Care a little	1,869	1,022	808	195	608	*19	218	75	44	77	
Care about not getting drunk on alcohol											
Don't care	12,253	5,446	4,472	676	3,984	231	2,549	1,145	415	847	
Care a lot	4,899	3,521	2,918	413	966	*34	354	163	49	122	
Care somewhat	3,648	2,041	1,615	333	1,090	51	452	174	91	152	
Care a little	1,764	990	830	133	524	*12	234	96	*40	70	
Care about staying off cigarettes											
Don't care	10,138	4,321	3,479	598	3,179	200	2,391	1,174	413	669	
Care a lot	5,831	4,072	3,410	427	1,380	46	295	86	*37	153	
Care somewhat	5,057	2,845	2,306	359	1,532	64	608	223	105	218	
Care a little	1,942	1,060	829	205	587	*24	266	83	42	126	
Care about eating healthy foods											
Don't care	15,015	7,703	6,306	945	4,581	230	2,445	1,130	400	766	
Care a lot	1,952	1,229	907	186	424	*13	271	117	*36	*95	
Care somewhat	4,073	2,261	1,861	293	1,090	63	648	259	128	224	
Care a little	2,206	1,232	1,003	185	650	27	287	95	54	114	
Care about staying away from marijuana											
Don't care	4,883	1,878	1,494	221	1,550	119	1,312	710	208	337	
Care a lot	10,882	7,213	5,938	856	2,693	75	857	288	119	380	
Care somewhat	5,572	2,482	1,992	377	1,861	109	1,102	439	220	355	
Care a little	1,617	744	588	140	542	*27	298	125	42	114	
Care about not drinking and driving											
Don't care	4,589	2,200	1,723	308	1,446	93	817	398	129	245	
Care a lot	12,244	6,863	5,661	806	3,403	140	1,794	743	323	599	
Care somewhat	4,765	2,455	2,013	331	1,407	85	808	380	113	278	
Care a little	1,437	754	596	143	450	*15	213	86	44	61	
Care about being fit and exercising											
Don't care	6,320	3,303	2,660	449	1,850	82	1,048	524	173	298	
Care a lot	6,664	3,676	2,948	460	1,937	92	934	393	160	317	
Care somewhat	7,703	4,033	3,341	474	2,194	122	1,327	558	233	447	
Care a little	2,455	1,376	1,104	224	714	*32	324	125	49	126	

See footnote at end of table.

Table 1. Number and percent distribution of teenagers by perceived peer risk behaviors, according to adolescent smoking status: United States, 1989—Con.

Perceived peer risk behaviors	Adolescent smoking status										
	All statuses	Never smoked				Experimenter	Former smoker	Current smoker			
		All never smoked	No intention	May smoke	All current smokers ¹			Heavy	Light	Occasional	
	Percent distribution										
All teenagers ²	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
Care about wearing seat belts											
Don't care	57.1	54.0	53.4	59.2	59.3	66.1	63.2	69.9	56.6	58.8	
Care a lot	9.5	10.1	10.2	7.4	9.4	13.2	7.4	5.6	*3.0	11.0	
Care somewhat	20.9	21.8	23.2	16.7	20.5	15.5	19.4	15.1	28.6	20.9	
Care a little	10.6	12.2	12.3	15.3	9.2	*4.4	8.2	7.8	8.4	8.4	
Care about keeping weight down											
Don't care	12.6	13.6	12.8	16.8	12.0	*9.6	10.2	9.5	9.0	11.1	
Care a lot	52.2	50.1	52.1	42.4	52.9	57.6	57.3	56.5	68.7	53.4	
Care somewhat	23.2	22.9	22.5	25.0	24.6	26.3	21.5	24.3	13.4	22.0	
Care a little	10.4	11.5	11.5	14.1	9.2	*4.7	9.6	8.0	7.3	12.6	
Care about staying away from drugs											
Don't care	20.5	14.7	14.4	14.6	22.7	35.7	34.6	42.1	34.5	27.2	
Care a lot	39.6	49.2	50.7	44.8	33.7	15.8	19.5	16.1	15.2	25.0	
Care somewhat	29.1	25.9	26.5	26.5	32.9	36.8	32.4	31.5	30.5	34.2	
Care a little	7.8	7.6	7.2	12.2	7.4	*6.1	9.5	6.9	11.9	10.6	
Care about not getting high on alcohol											
Don't care	47.1	38.1	38.8	36.5	53.3	62.3	65.1	69.7	59.7	62.4	
Care a lot	21.3	29.1	29.9	25.9	13.7	*9.4	10.0	8.9	11.2	11.3	
Care somewhat	18.5	19.5	20.1	19.8	18.8	18.4	15.0	12.1	17.7	16.7	
Care a little	7.9	8.1	8.0	12.1	8.9	*5.6	5.9	4.6	7.0	6.4	
Care about not getting drunk on alcohol											
Don't care	52.1	43.4	44.3	41.9	58.4	67.5	69.1	70.7	65.7	70.2	
Care a lot	20.8	28.0	28.9	25.6	14.2	*9.9	9.6	10.1	7.4	10.1	
Care somewhat	15.5	16.2	16.0	20.6	16.0	14.9	12.3	10.7	14.4	12.6	
Care a little	7.5	7.9	8.2	8.2	7.7	*3.5	6.3	5.9	*6.3	5.8	
Care about staying off cigarettes											
Don't care	43.1	34.4	34.5	37.0	46.6	58.8	64.8	72.5	65.3	55.5	
Care a lot	24.8	32.4	33.8	26.4	20.2	13.5	8.0	5.3	*5.9	12.7	
Care somewhat	21.5	22.6	22.8	22.2	22.4	18.7	16.5	13.8	16.6	18.1	
Care a little	8.3	8.4	8.2	12.7	8.6	*7.0	7.2	5.1	6.6	10.4	
Care about eating healthy foods											
Don't care	63.8	61.3	62.4	58.5	67.1	67.3	66.3	69.8	63.3	63.5	
Care a lot	8.3	9.8	9.0	11.5	6.2	*3.8	7.3	7.2	*5.7	7.9	
Care somewhat	17.3	18.0	18.4	18.1	16.0	18.4	17.6	16.0	20.3	18.6	
Care a little	9.4	9.8	9.9	11.5	9.5	*7.9	7.8	5.9	8.5	9.5	
Care about staying away from marijuana											
Don't care	20.8	15.0	14.8	13.7	22.7	34.8	35.6	43.9	32.9	27.9	
Care a lot	46.3	57.4	58.8	53.0	39.5	21.9	23.2	17.8	18.8	31.5	
Care somewhat	23.7	19.8	19.7	23.3	27.3	31.9	29.9	27.1	34.8	29.4	
Care a little	6.9	5.9	5.8	8.7	7.9	*7.9	8.1	7.7	6.6	9.5	
Care about not drinking and driving											
Don't care	19.5	17.5	17.1	19.1	21.2	27.2	22.2	24.6	20.4	20.3	
Care a lot	52.0	54.6	56.1	49.9	49.9	40.9	48.6	45.9	51.1	49.7	
Care somewhat	20.3	19.5	19.9	20.5	20.6	24.9	21.9	23.5	17.9	23.1	
Care a little	6.1	6.0	5.9	8.9	6.6	*4.4	5.8	5.3	7.0	5.1	
Care about being fit and exercising											
Don't care	26.9	26.3	26.3	27.8	27.1	24.0	28.4	32.4	27.4	24.7	
Care a lot	28.3	29.3	29.2	28.5	28.4	26.9	25.3	24.3	25.3	26.3	
Care somewhat	32.7	32.1	33.1	29.3	32.1	35.7	36.0	34.5	36.9	37.1	
Care a little	10.4	11.0	10.9	13.9	10.5	*9.4	8.8	7.7	7.8	10.4	

¹Includes unknown type of current smoker.
²Includes unknowns.

Table 2. Number and percent distribution of current teenage smokers by accessibility of cigarettes, quit attempts, and future use, according to age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin: United States, 1989

Accessibility, quit attempts, and future use	Current smokers ¹	Age			Sex		Race		Hispanic origin	
		12-13	14-15	16-18	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	Non-Hispanic
Number in thousands										
Total ²	3,620	234	834	2,552	1,948	1,672	3,332	212	241	3,387
"Usually buy your own cigarettes?"										
Yes	2,291	54	413	1,824	1,272	1,020	2,149	103	120	2,172
No.	1,329	180	421	728	677	652	1,183	110	121	1,208
"What brand usually buy?"										
Marlboro	1,558	*36	321	1,202	865	694	1,519	*9	73	1,486
Winston	72	*5	*5	62	45	*27	72	*...	*...	72
Camel	184	*5	*38	141	137	47	178	*3	*9	175
Newport	187	*4	*20	163	91	96	120	63	*15	172
Other	269	*5	*27	237	117	152	239	*28	*22	247
"How often buy from a vending machine?"										
Often	141	*5	47	89	103	*38	125	*9	*...	141
Sometimes	157	*6	*34	117	89	68	143	*12	*17	140
Rarely	876	*17	166	693	464	412	836	*26	50	826
Never	1,116	*26	166	924	615	502	1,045	55	52	1,064
"How often buy from a large store?"										
Often	605	*5	103	497	349	256	569	*23	*40	565
Sometimes	564	*2	82	480	298	266	535	*18	*28	536
Rarely	673	*21	119	533	345	328	623	44	*32	641
Never	450	*26	109	314	280	170	422	*18	*20	430
"How often buy from a small store?"										
Often	1,588	*29	272	1,287	872	716	1,493	70	79	1,508
Sometimes	398	*...	68	330	209	189	373	*13	*29	370
Rarely	220	*20	44	156	125	95	203	*15	*7	213
Never	86	*6	*30	51	67	*19	81	*5	*5	81
"Ever seriously thought about quitting?"										
Yes	2,717	168	657	1,891	1,424	1,294	2,496	157	187	2,530
No.	471	*23	91	357	267	204	427	*27	*39	431
Never smoked regularly	494	50	93	351	260	234	431	*33	42	452
"How many times have you tried to quit?" ³										
Never	341	*12	75	254	203	138	310	*26	*26	315
One or more times	2,339	154	571	1,615	1,206	1,133	2,151	128	154	2,185
Once	748	50	223	474	401	347	694	*38	59	689
Two or three times	996	62	216	719	522	474	897	63	48	949
Four or more times	595	42	132	422	283	312	560	*27	47	548
"Have you tried to quit in the past 6 months?" ⁴										
Yes	1,799	137	505	1,158	935	865	1,659	94	118	1,682
No.	571	*20	78	473	284	287	523	*37	41	529
"Longest time you stayed off cigarettes?"										
1-6 days ⁵	369	*22	78	269	182	186	347	*12	*8	361
7-29 days	684	46	161	477	382	301	639	*31	54	629
1-3 months	549	*38	139	372	293	257	502	*34	*25	525
4-6 months	400	*19	101	280	214	186	371	*20	*20	380
7-11 months	49	*...	*11	*37	*10	*38	41	*5	*3	46
12 months or more	176	*17	41	118	94	82	163	*13	*23	153
"Think you will be smoking one year from now?"										
Definitely yes	203	*9	41	153	117	86	187	*12	*19	184
Probably yes	1,373	*38	332	1,003	706	667	1,305	*40	94	1,279
Probably not	1,223	90	270	863	690	532	1,116	81	85	1,138
Definitely not	741	95	174	472	392	349	652	75	*36	705
Don't know	81	*2	*17	61	43	*38	72	*4	*7	73

See footnote at end of table.

Table 2. Number and percent distribution of current teenage smokers by accessibility of cigarettes, quit attempts, and future use, according to age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin: United States, 1989—Con.

Accessibility, quit attempts, and future use	Current smokers ¹	Age			Sex		Race		Hispanic origin	
		12–13	14–15	16–18	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	Non-Hispanic
Percent distribution										
Total ²	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
"Usually buy your own cigarettes?"										
Yes	63.3	23.1	49.5	71.5	65.3	61.0	64.5	48.6	49.8	64.3
No	36.7	76.9	50.5	28.5	34.8	39.0	35.5	51.9	50.2	35.7
"What brand usually buy?"										
Marlboro	68.0	*66.7	77.7	65.9	68.0	68.0	70.7	*8.7	60.8	68.4
Winston	3.1	*9.3	*1.2	3.4	3.5	*2.6	3.4	*. . .	*. . .	3.3
Camel	8.0	*9.3	*9.2	7.7	10.8	4.6	8.3	*2.9	*7.5	8.1
Newport	8.2	*7.4	*4.8	8.9	7.2	9.4	5.6	61.2	*12.5	7.9
Other	11.7	*9.3	*6.5	13.0	9.2	14.9	11.1	27.2	*18.3	11.4
"How often buy from a vending machine?"										
Often	6.2	*9.3	11.4	4.9	8.1	*3.7	5.8	*8.7	*. . .	6.5
Sometimes	6.9	*11.1	*8.2	6.4	7.0	6.7	6.7	*11.7	*14.2	6.4
Rarely	38.2	*31.5	40.2	38.0	36.5	40.4	38.9	*25.2	41.7	38.0
Never	48.7	*48.1	40.2	50.7	48.3	49.2	48.6	53.4	43.3	49.0
"How often buy from a large store?"										
Often	26.4	*9.3	24.9	27.2	27.4	25.1	26.5	*22.3	*33.3	26.0
Sometimes	24.6	*3.7	19.9	26.3	23.4	26.1	24.9	*17.5	*23.3	24.7
Rarely	29.4	*38.9	28.8	29.2	27.1	32.2	29.0	42.7	*26.7	29.5
Never	19.6	*48.1	26.4	17.2	22.0	16.7	19.6	*17.5	*16.7	19.8
"How often buy from a small store?"										
Often	69.3	*53.7	65.9	70.6	68.6	70.2	69.5	68.0	65.8	69.4
Sometimes	17.4	*. . .	16.5	18.1	16.4	18.5	17.4	*12.0	*24.2	17.0
Rarely	9.6	*37.0	10.7	8.6	9.8	9.3	9.4	*14.6	*5.8	9.8
Never	3.8	*11.1	*7.3	2.8	5.3	*1.9	3.8	*4.9	*4.2	3.7
"Ever seriously thought about quitting?"										
Yes	73.7	69.7	77.8	72.7	72.8	74.8	74.3	72.4	69.8	74.0
No	12.8	*9.5	*10.8	13.7	13.6	11.8	12.7	*12.4	*14.6	12.6
Never smoked regularly	13.4	20.7	11.0	13.5	13.3	13.5	12.8	*15.2	15.7	13.2
"How many times have you tried to quit?" ³										
Never	12.6	*7.1	11.4	13.4	14.3	10.7	12.4	*16.6	*13.9	12.5
One or more times	86.1	91.7	86.9	85.4	84.8	87.5	86.1	81.5	82.4	86.4
Once	27.5	29.8	33.9	25.1	28.2	26.8	27.8	*24.2	31.6	27.2
Two or three times	36.7	36.9	32.9	38.0	36.7	36.6	35.9	40.1	25.7	37.5
Four or more times	21.9	25.0	20.1	22.3	19.9	24.1	22.4	*17.2	25.1	21.7
"Have you tried to quit in the past 6 months?" ⁴										
Yes	75.7	87.3	86.8	70.7	76.6	74.8	75.9	71.8	72.8	75.9
No	24.0	*12.7	13.4	28.9	23.3	24.8	23.9	*28.2	25.3	23.9
"Longest time you stayed off cigarettes?"										
1–6 days ⁵	16.4	*15.4	14.5	17.2	15.3	17.5	16.6	*10.3	*5.7	17.1
7–29 days	30.4	32.2	29.9	30.4	32.2	28.3	30.6	*26.7	38.6	29.8
1–3 months	24.4	*26.6	25.8	23.7	24.7	24.2	24.1	*29.3	*17.9	24.9
4–6 months	17.8	*13.3	18.7	17.9	18.0	17.5	17.8	*17.2	*14.3	18.0
7–11 months	2.2	*. . .	*2.0	*2.4	*0.8	*3.6	2.0	*4.3	*2.1	2.2
12 months or more	7.8	*11.9	7.6	7.5	7.9	7.7	7.8	*11.2	*16.4	7.3
"Think you will be smoking one year from now?"										
Definitely yes	5.6	*3.8	4.9	6.0	6.0	5.1	5.6	*5.7	*7.9	5.4
Probably yes	37.9	*16.2	39.8	39.3	36.2	39.9	39.2	*18.9	39.0	37.8
Probably not	33.8	38.5	32.4	33.8	35.4	31.8	33.5	38.2	35.3	33.7
Definitely not	20.5	40.6	20.9	18.5	20.1	20.9	19.6	35.4	14.9	20.9
Don't know	2.2	*0.9	*2.0	2.4	2.2	*2.3	2.2	*1.9	*2.9	2.2

¹Includes all other races.²Difference in number of total current smokers from table 1 due to Computer-Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) versus CATI-mail sample size (see Technical notes).³Includes unknown accessibility, quit attempts and future use.⁴Includes persons who ever thought seriously about quitting smoking.⁵Includes persons who ever tried to quit smoking.⁶Includes less than 1 day.

Table 3. Number and percent distribution of teenagers who have never smoked a whole cigarette by smoking intention, according to age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin: United States, 1989

Smoking intention	Never smoked ¹	Age			Sex		Race		Hispanic origin	
		12-13	14-15	16-18	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	Non-Hispanic
Number in thousands										
Total ²	12,822	5,017	3,651	4,154	6,386	6,436	9,991	2,289	1,234	11,588
"Think you will try a cigarette soon?"										
Yes	220	118	73	*29	116	104	175	*30	*32	188
No.	12,255	4,704	3,491	4,060	6,066	6,189	9,551	2,194	1,116	11,139
Don't know	347	194	87	66	204	143	265	65	85	261
"Have you ever been offered a cigarette?"										
Yes	5,027	1,225	1,539	2,263	2,664	2,363	4,001	887	542	4,485
No.	7,786	3,789	2,106	1,891	3,714	4,073	5,982	1,402	690	7,097
"Smoke cigarette if best friend offered?"										
Definitely or probably yes	112	45	42	*25	49	63	83	*21	*10	102
Definitely or probably not.	12,683	4,964	3,604	4,115	6,310	6,373	9,881	2,268	1,221	11,462
"Would it be easy or hard to get cigarettes if you wanted some?"										
Easy	8,064	1,939	2,431	3,694	4,149	3,915	6,338	1,421	679	7,385
Hard	4,528	2,931	1,168	429	2,116	2,412	3,481	830	525	4,003
Don't know	230	146	52	*32	120	109	173	*38	*29	200
"Do you think you will be smoking 1 year from now?"										
Definitely or probably yes	82	*24	*27	*31	48	*34	56	*23	*30	52
Definitely or probably not.	12,711	4,974	3,615	4,121	6,314	6,397	9,916	2,256	1,194	11,517
Percent distribution										
Total ²	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
"Think you will try a cigarette soon?"										
Yes	1.7	2.4	2.0	*0.7	1.8	1.6	1.8	*1.3	*2.6	1.6
No.	95.6	93.8	95.6	97.7	95.0	96.2	95.6	95.8	90.4	96.1
Don't know	2.7	3.9	2.4	1.6	3.2	2.2	2.7	2.8	6.9	2.3
"Have you ever been offered a cigarette?"										
Yes	39.2	24.4	42.2	54.5	41.7	36.7	40.0	38.8	43.9	38.7
No.	60.7	75.5	57.7	45.5	58.2	63.3	59.9	61.2	55.9	61.2
"Smoke cigarette if best friend offered?"										
Definitely or probably yes	0.9	0.9	1.2	*0.6	0.8	0.9	0.8	*1.0	*0.8	0.9
Definitely or probably not.	98.9	98.9	98.7	99.1	98.8	99.0	98.9	99.1	98.9	98.9
"Would it be easy or hard to get cigarettes if you wanted some?"										
Easy	62.9	38.6	66.6	88.9	65.0	60.8	63.4	62.1	55.0	63.7
Hard	35.3	58.4	32.0	10.3	33.1	37.5	34.8	36.3	42.5	34.5
Don't know	1.8	2.9	1.4	*0.8	1.9	1.7	1.7	*1.7	*2.4	1.7
"Do you think you will be smoking 1 year from now?"										
Definitely or probably yes	0.6	*0.5	*0.7	*0.7	0.8	*0.5	0.6	*1.0	*2.4	0.4
Definitely or probably not.	99.1	99.1	99.0	99.2	98.9	99.4	99.2	98.6	96.8	99.4

¹Includes all other races.²Difference in total number of "never smoked" from table 1 due to Computer-Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) versus CATI-mail sample size (see Technical notes). Includes unknown intent to smoke except for "Think you will try a cigarette soon?"

Table 4. Number and percent distribution of teenagers by correlates of smoking uptake and risk-taking behaviors, according to smoking status: United States, 1989

Correlates of smoking uptake and risk-taking behaviors	Smoking status									
	All statuses	Never smoked			Experimenter	Former smoker	Current smoker			
		All never smoked	No intention	May smoke			All current smokers ¹	Heavy	Light	Occasional
Number in thousands										
All teenagers ²	23,524	12,822	11,055	1,766	6,717	322	3,620	1,554	572	1,250
Percent distribution										
All teenagers	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Persons in household who smoke										
No smoker.	53.3	59.3	60.1	54.8	48.5	46.3	41.6	32.4	41.6	50.9
Both parents and no older sibling(s)	9.8	8.6	8.6	8.6	11.2	*9.9	11.7	13.4	12.1	9.4
Both parents and older sibling(s)	1.7	1.0	1.0	*1.2	1.8	*2.5	4.0	5.1	*4.7	*2.2
Either parent and no older sibling(s)	25.5	24.5	24.3	26.2	28.6	25.8	23.3	25.3	24.1	21.4
Either parent and older sibling(s)	2.9	1.7	1.6	2.3	2.8	*6.8	7.0	9.8	*6.3	3.8
Older sibling(s) and no parent	3.2	2.2	2.1	3.5	3.3	*4.3	6.1	5.9	*6.3	7.1
All others, excluding parent(s) and older sibling(s)	3.4	2.4	2.4	2.7	3.8	*5.0	6.2	8.0	*5.1	5.0
Relatives not in household who smoke										
No smoker.	27.3	31.0	31.4	28.4	24.2	14.6	21.4	17.1	22.0	27.3
Both parents and no older sibling(s)	0.8	*0.3	*0.3	*0.3	1.2	*3.1	1.8	*2.6	*0.3	*1.4
Both parents and older sibling(s)	0.2	*0.0	*1.0	*. . .	*0.1	*. . .	*0.9	*1.7	*0.3	*. . .
Either parent and no older sibling(s)	5.0	3.7	3.8	3.1	6.0	*5.3	7.7	9.6	8.6	5.7
Either parent and older sibling(s)	0.7	*0.2	*0.2	*0.1	1.0	*3.7	1.7	2.8	*1.7	*0.8
Older sibling(s) and no parent	6.7	4.1	3.9	5.4	8.8	*10.9	11.4	13.8	10.3	7.7
All others, excluding parent(s) and older sibling(s)	58.0	59.1	58.9	60.5	57.7	61.2	54.5	52.3	54.9	56.6
"Of your four best male friends, how many smoke?"										
None	61.7	77.3	80.4	67.8	59.7	28.4	16.2	6.1	14.2	30.2
One	14.0	10.8	9.9	17.2	17.7	24.9	17.4	10.9	19.1	25.8
Two	9.3	5.3	4.9	7.6	11.3	17.5	18.0	15.8	20.9	17.7
Three	4.7	2.0	1.7	*2.4	4.4	*9.1	14.2	18.1	13.4	9.4
Four	8.0	2.2	2.0	2.7	4.7	18.1	32.8	47.8	28.8	16.0
"Of your four best female friends, how many smoke?"										
None	64.0	80.1	82.5	73.6	60.3	33.9	19.7	8.5	14.6	36.6
One	13.4	10.4	9.7	14.2	16.9	18.7	16.9	12.7	19.5	21.0
Two	9.9	4.8	4.3	7.2	11.8	20.2	22.6	21.8	20.3	23.0
Three	4.7	1.5	1.3	*1.7	5.4	*10.2	13.6	17.0	15.5	7.8
Four	6.1	1.4	1.4	*1.1	3.9	12.9	25.3	39.4	24.5	9.5
"How you think your best friends would feel about you smoking one or more packs ³ of cigarettes a day?"										
Approve	1.7	1.5	1.4	*2.2	1.7	*. . .	2.7	3.9	*1.9	*1.8
Disapprove	72.3	80.5	82.4	69.0	69.6	50.6	50.3	36.7	61.0	61.2
Not care	25.4	17.3	15.7	27.3	28.3	48.8	46.6	59.1	36.9	36.6
"Do friends who smoke ever say they should quit?"										
Yes	54.2	43.3	41.0	43.3	63.0	82.9	80.6	86.4	77.1	75.0
No.	26.6	31.0	30.1	37.0	23.5	16.8	17.9	13.3	22.4	21.4
No friends who smoke	18.8	27.0	28.3	18.9	13.1	*0.6	1.4	*0.3	*0.5	3.3
"How many people your age smoke cigarettes?"										
None	13.9	22.3	21.9	18.6	*5.7	*1.2	1.2	*0.8	*0.8	*1.7
A few	38.0	42.4	43.3	40.1	42.1	19.0	17.4	9.0	14.6	29.4
Some	27.8	25.2	25.2	30.0	32.7	33.6	26.7	19.3	32.4	33.8
Most or all	19.8	9.4	9.5	10.6	19.0	46.2	54.5	70.5	51.9	34.5
"How many people your age use chewing tobacco or snuff?"										
None	52.8	61.0	60.4	63.2	47.3	28.4	37.6	36.3	36.7	38.0
A few	28.6	23.9	25.0	21.5	30.8	43.0	39.4	40.7	38.1	37.9
Some	13.2	10.8	11.0	11.0	15.4	17.0	17.0	18.0	16.8	17.6
Most or all	4.3	3.2	3.1	3.0	5.6	*8.5	5.3	4.4	*6.0	6.6
"How many people your age smoke marijuana?"										
None	54.0	69.7	70.2	70.3	44.6	21.9	21.2	15.1	17.2	29.3
A few	25.8	19.0	19.5	18.3	32.7	31.9	36.1	30.0	39.7	40.9
Some	12.6	7.3	7.3	7.8	14.9	30.1	24.2	29.3	22.6	19.4
Most or all	5.7	2.2	2.1	*2.1	6.0	*11.4	16.4	24.0	15.5	8.7

See footnote at end of table.

Table 4. Number and percent distribution of teenagers by correlates of smoking uptake and risk-taking behaviors, according to smoking status: United States, 1989—Con.

Correlates of smoking uptake and risk-taking behaviors	Smoking status										
	All statuses	Never smoked				Experimenter	Former smoker	Current smoker			
		All never smoked	No intention	May smoke	All current smokers ¹			Heavy	Light	Occasional	
Percent distribution											
"How many people your age use cocaine or crack?"											
None	80.6	85.3	85.9	85.5	80.0	65.5	66.8	61.0	68.7	72.6	
A few	12.7	9.3	9.7	9.6	13.4	27.8	21.6	25.0	18.4	19.3	
Some	3.6	2.7	2.7	2.6	3.5	*4.4	6.6	8.3	*5.7	5.1	
Most or all	0.8	0.6	0.5	*0.9	*0.6	*0.9	2.1	2.8	*2.8	*0.9	
"How many people your age drink alcohol at least once a week?"											
None	28.0	39.0	39.4	35.9	19.0	*7.9	9.4	7.3	9.8	12.4	
A few	25.0	25.6	25.8	27.3	26.8	15.8	20.6	19.8	18.8	21.6	
Some	20.8	19.3	19.0	23.5	23.9	23.1	19.5	17.2	19.0	21.8	
Most or all	24.9	14.5	15.1	12.4	29.3	50.6	49.9	55.2	52.1	43.4	
"How many people your age get drunk at least once a month?"											
None	33.4	47.1	47.1	45.7	22.5	*11.1	9.4	7.7	7.3	13.0	
A few	24.3	23.3	23.7	23.6	28.9	16.7	19.8	14.7	24.1	23.4	
Some	17.0	15.2	15.3	18.2	19.2	22.2	18.8	16.1	17.9	21.2	
Most or all	23.4	12.3	13.0	9.8	27.9	49.4	50.7	60.6	47.3	41.5	
"How many people you know have ever had sex?"											
None	24.8	37.4	37.7	37.8	13.8	*2.6	4.3	1.2	4.3	8.3	
A few	22.3	24.5	25.0	25.7	24.0	12.9	12.7	8.1	10.1	19.1	
Some	16.6	14.9	15.3	14.4	20.1	17.5	15.8	11.3	20.1	18.9	
Most or all	32.8	18.9	19.2	15.5	39.5	62.6	65.1	77.6	62.3	51.4	
"How much do/did you like school?"											
A lot	40.1	45.5	48.0	32.6	37.2	27.5	28.6	20.6	30.2	36.6	
Some	47.5	46.4	45.2	55.0	51.0	55.8	44.3	41.9	44.6	48.5	
Very little	8.4	5.5	4.6	9.7	9.1	*7.9	16.5	20.8	16.3	9.8	
Not at all	3.7	2.2	1.9	*2.2	2.7	*8.5	10.2	15.6	8.5	5.1	
"How do/did you do in school?"											
Much better than average	16.0	20.3	21.3	13.9	13.0	*7.1	7.5	4.7	8.2	10.6	
Better than average	36.3	39.4	40.1	34.7	35.3	28.9	28.0	23.6	25.9	34.1	
Average	43.4	38.0	36.7	46.1	48.0	55.3	52.9	53.6	56.1	50.2	
Below average	3.9	1.9	1.5	4.4	3.6	*9.0	11.3	17.2	9.6	5.2	
"How useful do you think the things you are learning in school will be to you later in life?"											
Very useful	54.3	61.0	61.6	57.0	50.2	43.2	39.0	34.0	42.5	42.5	
Somewhat useful	42.7	37.0	36.6	39.5	47.4	51.2	53.8	53.9	53.3	53.4	
Not at all useful	2.7	1.7	1.5	2.8	2.2	*5.9	7.0	11.3	*4.2	4.1	
"Is there a rule at your school that students are not allowed to smoke on school property?"											
Yes	86.4	88.9	88.7	90.8	85.1	75.5	80.4	76.4	80.4	83.8	
No	12.1	9.0	9.4	6.7	14.0	23.0	18.9	22.4	19.2	15.6	
"How many students who smoke obey that rule?"											
None	14.8	13.7	14.1	11.2	14.6	24.7	18.7	22.6	17.4	14.7	
A few	25.3	23.7	23.5	25.0	26.5	19.3	29.5	35.0	26.3	26.8	
Some	16.6	16.1	15.7	18.5	17.4	18.5	17.2	14.7	19.6	18.5	
Most	25.1	24.0	23.6	26.5	26.8	33.3	25.3	20.3	26.5	28.7	
All of them	17.5	21.5	22.0	18.0	14.3	*4.1	9.2	7.3	10.2	11.4	
"How many of the teachers in your school smoke cigarettes?"											
None	11.8	15.8	15.8	15.7	8.4	*2.2	4.9	4.3	*5.6	5.2	
A few	37.8	39.4	39.3	39.8	36.6	31.1	35.4	34.6	37.6	37.0	
Some	31.2	27.4	27.7	25.8	35.8	43.8	35.0	35.7	30.4	35.9	
Most or all	11.3	9.3	8.9	11.5	11.6	14.9	17.5	18.9	16.6	14.9	
"Have you ever taken a class or course at school in which the health risks of smoking were discussed?"											
Yes	75.2	73.7	74.9	66.7	78.0	82.0	74.4	73.7	77.1	74.2	
No	24.1	25.4	24.5	31.6	21.5	18.0	24.6	24.4	22.6	25.4	

See footnote at end of table.

Table 4. Number and percent distribution of teenagers by correlates of smoking uptake and risk-taking behaviors, according to smoking status: United States, 1989—Con.

Correlates of smoking uptake and risk-taking behaviors	Smoking status									
	All statuses	Never smoked				Current smoker				
		All never smoked	No intention	May smoke	Experimenter	Former smoker	All current smokers ¹	Heavy	Light	Occasional
"Reason and total time missed from school in past 2 weeks?" ⁴					Percent distribution					
Did not cut, missed no days	56.2	63.2	63.3	61.7	53.7	46.5	37.9	27.3	46.0	46.4
Did not cut, missed 1 or more days	21.2	19.5	19.3	20.4	23.3	19.3	23.4	20.2	23.7	27.4
Cut, missed 1 or more days	4.0	1.6	1.4	*1.8	4.8	*9.4	9.7	11.2	8.4	8.8
"During the past year, how often have you felt too tired to do things?"										
Often	15.4	12.7	12.2	15.6	18.1	25.8	19.2	19.8	19.8	17.0
Sometimes	33.8	33.4	32.1	41.3	34.3	36.3	34.1	32.0	35.5	36.2
Rarely	41.7	43.0	44.3	34.8	40.9	31.1	39.5	40.6	35.5	40.0
Never	8.7	10.5	10.9	7.6	6.3	*6.8	6.9	6.8	8.9	6.7
"During the past year, how often have you had trouble going to sleep or staying asleep?"										
Often	14.7	11.3	11.2	12.1	16.6	25.5	22.1	25.7	21.5	19.0
Sometimes	24.6	23.5	22.7	28.6	26.9	22.4	23.8	21.4	25.3	25.9
Rarely	33.5	34.5	34.6	33.5	34.0	27.3	30.2	27.5	31.8	32.1
Never	26.7	30.2	31.1	24.7	22.0	23.9	23.4	24.5	20.3	23.0
"During the past year, how often have you felt unhappy, sad, or depressed?"										
Often	14.0	10.5	10.4	11.3	14.7	23.0	24.3	27.0	24.1	21.0
Sometimes	33.5	31.1	30.3	36.1	37.4	39.8	34.3	31.7	36.9	35.4
Rarely	38.1	40.5	41.1	36.9	36.8	31.4	32.9	33.1	28.7	35.3
Never	13.7	17.2	17.6	14.1	10.6	*5.9	8.0	7.4	9.4	8.0
"During the past year, how often have you felt hopeless about the future?"										
Often	7.7	5.8	5.3	8.5	7.6	*9.3	14.4	18.0	11.7	11.5
Sometimes	14.8	12.3	11.8	15.7	17.3	18.0	18.3	17.8	21.0	17.8
Rarely	30.9	28.6	28.4	29.7	34.5	31.4	32.7	31.5	31.5	34.6
Never	46.0	52.6	53.9	44.6	40.1	41.6	33.8	31.4	35.5	35.9
"During the past year, how often have you felt nervous or tense?"										
Often	18.6	14.7	14.3	17.0	21.4	28.3	26.7	29.3	26.7	22.6
Sometimes	37.7	37.6	37.3	39.4	37.5	50.0	37.2	35.1	39.9	41.0
Rarely	30.3	31.7	32.5	26.7	30.1	16.5	27.0	26.6	23.8	27.4
Never	12.9	15.5	15.5	15.7	10.6	*5.6	8.6	8.1	8.7	8.9
"During the past year, how often have you worried too much about things?"										
Often	25.9	20.7	20.5	22.3	30.5	39.8	34.6	35.1	35.8	32.4
Sometimes	32.6	32.9	32.1	38.2	33.5	33.9	29.6	28.0	23.8	34.6
Rarely	26.8	29.0	29.8	23.9	24.6	14.6	24.4	25.0	26.4	23.1
Never	14.2	16.8	17.2	14.6	11.0	*12.1	11.0	11.0	13.3	9.9
"During the past year have you had an accident, injury, or poisoning that required medical attention by a doctor, nurse, or medical assistant?"										
Yes	23.2	20.8	21.0	20.2	25.3	27.3	27.5	30.3	24.5	25.4
No	76.3	78.8	78.6	79.0	74.2	73.0	72.0	68.8	75.0	74.5
Frequency of fighting in past year										
Never	72.3	79.9	82.0	75.3	68.1	55.8	56.3	49.5	55.2	65.6
Once	10.0	8.2	7.6	8.5	11.6	*9.4	12.9	13.6	12.8	12.2
Twice	7.4	5.7	5.1	6.9	8.9	13.2	9.7	9.8	11.9	7.4
Three to five times	6.1	3.6	3.0	6.0	7.2	14.9	11.9	13.5	13.1	9.5
More than five times	3.4	1.7	1.5	*1.5	3.6	*5.8	8.4	12.4	6.6	4.9
Been in fight, DK times	0.5	0.6	*0.3	*1.0	0.4	*0.9	*0.4	*0.4	*0.3	*0.3
Frequency of riding on motorcycle or minibike in past year										
Often	12.4	8.8	8.6	10.3	14.0	24.5	21.0	24.3	20.1	18.7
Sometimes	9.3	7.4	7.0	10.1	10.3	*12.4	14.0	15.5	13.3	12.8
Rarely	18.2	14.8	14.8	14.7	21.2	21.1	24.0	25.8	28.1	19.0
Never	59.7	68.6	69.3	64.1	54.1	41.9	40.5	33.4	38.6	49.4
"How often do you wear a seat belt when you drive or ride in a car?"										
Always or most of the time	62.4	69.9	70.6	65.1	59.0	51.9	43.7	34.0	46.0	52.3
Sometimes	18.3	16.8	16.5	19.1	19.5	20.2	21.3	21.4	22.0	21.2
Rarely or never	18.9	12.9	12.6	15.1	21.2	28.0	34.6	43.8	32.0	26.5

See footnote at end of table.

Table 4. Number and percent distribution of teenagers by correlates of smoking uptake and risk-taking behaviors, according to smoking status: United States, 1989—Con.

Correlates of smoking uptake and risk-taking behaviors	Smoking status									
	All statuses	Never smoked				Experimenter	Former smoker	Current smoker		
		All never smoked	No intention	May smoke	All current smokers ¹			Heavy	Light	Occasional
Percent distribution										
"During the last 4 weeks have you ridden in a vehicle driven by someone who had been drinking or using drugs?"										
Yes	10.9	4.7	4.5	5.5	11.8	21.7	30.2	37.5	24.0	25.9
No	88.7	94.9	95.0	93.7	87.8	78.3	69.3	61.3	76.0	74.0
"Including Saturdays and Sundays, how many nights a week do you usually go out for fun or recreation?"										
None	9.8	12.5	12.6	12.3	6.8	*7.5	5.7	6.1	*4.2	5.5
One to two nights	49.5	52.9	52.8	53.0	50.1	37.9	38.0	30.4	40.0	46.1
Three to four nights	29.7	26.9	27.0	26.2	31.2	41.0	35.7	35.8	39.0	33.8
Five nights or more	10.0	6.6	6.6	6.7	11.0	13.7	20.0	26.5	15.9	14.4
"Have you ever had a steady boyfriend/girlfriend?"										
Yes	69.0	56.6	56.7	56.3	79.7	91.0	90.6	93.9	91.8	85.6
No	30.6	42.9	42.9	43.0	19.9	9.3	9.0	5.2	8.0	14.4
"Did he or she smoke?"										
Yes	19.4	7.5	7.2	9.4	15.9	45.4	49.1	67.7	42.7	29.3
No	80.6	92.5	92.8	90.6	84.2	54.6	50.9	32.3	57.3	70.5
"About how much money do you have each week to spend on yourself any way you want to?"										
None	7.3	8.1	7.3	7.2	6.6	*8.5	5.6	5.4	6.5	5.5
\$1-\$5	17.9	23.1	22.7	23.4	13.6	*10.8	8.3	6.2	10.8	9.8
\$6-\$10	21.2	23.7	24.1	24.2	20.0	15.8	15.3	11.7	16.9	18.3
\$11-\$20	21.1	19.9	19.6	24.2	23.3	17.3	21.8	19.2	25.2	23.2
\$21-\$30	8.4	7.2	7.6	6.0	10.3	*7.9	9.2	7.9	10.1	10.6
\$31-\$50	10.7	8.3	8.8	6.4	12.3	19.3	15.0	17.9	10.6	14.3
More than \$50	10.1	5.9	6.2	4.0	11.7	14.9	21.1	28.0	17.1	14.5
"In the past year have you participated in any kind of competitive and organized physical activity, such as team sports?"										
Yes	65.1	68.7	69.6	63.0	66.0	54.0	51.8	41.0	52.3	63.2
No	34.4	30.7	29.9	36.1	33.6	46.0	47.7	58.0	47.7	36.8
"If you had a serious problem, to whom would you talk or go for help?"										
No one	4.3	3.9	3.7	5.5	4.4	*5.0	5.4	6.5	*2.6	4.6
Either parent	52.4	59.3	59.8	56.2	47.0	39.1	38.8	36.4	41.3	41.7
Other relative or adult	23.5	21.6	21.5	21.9	25.7	25.8	25.8	23.9	24.7	27.2
Friend	19.2	14.6	14.5	15.2	22.3	30.1	29.0	31.3	31.3	25.7
"Number of hours per week you are at home without a parent or adult around?" ⁵										
None or not on regular basis	39.4	41.3	41.6	39.8	37.7	30.1	32.8	31.1	29.2	33.9
1-5 hours	30.5	31.9	32.0	31.0	28.2	33.1	27.2	26.4	27.0	29.0
6-10 hours	16.1	15.1	15.0	15.4	17.1	*23.3	19.0	14.8	16.0	23.3
More than 10 hours	13.4	11.0	10.8	12.4	16.4	*13.5	20.4	26.6	26.6	13.5
"How often do you attend religious services?"										
Often	41.3	48.9	50.0	42.1	36.6	27.3	24.2	15.4	22.0	35.0
Sometimes	22.5	21.9	21.4	25.0	24.1	20.8	21.9	18.2	24.8	24.8
Rarely	21.6	17.4	17.2	18.5	24.5	34.5	30.1	33.5	32.7	25.2
Never	14.2	11.3	11.0	13.6	14.5	17.4	23.4	31.9	20.5	15.0
"Have you ever seen or read warning labels on any bottles or cans containing an alcoholic beverage?"										
Never seen	65.1	63.1	63.5	61.0	66.0	72.4	69.8	75.4	71.9	64.6
Seen, never read	13.1	13.8	13.4	16.3	13.1	*8.4	10.8	8.2	9.8	14.1
Read, reported one or more correct warnings	11.5	11.1	11.2	10.8	12.4	13.0	11.3	8.6	9.6	13.1
Read, reported no correct warnings	9.9	11.5	11.5	11.2	8.2	*6.2	7.6	6.7	8.2	8.0

¹Includes unknown type of smoker.²Difference in total number of teenagers from table 1 due to Computer-Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) versus CATI-mail sample size (see Technical notes). Includes unknown smoking status, correlates of smoking uptake and risk behaviors.³One pack contains 20 cigarettes.⁴Excludes adolescents not enrolled in school at time of interview.⁵Includes only 12-16-year-olds.

NOTE: Sums may not equal totals due to rounding.

Table 5. Number and percent distribution of male teenagers by smokeless tobacco-use status, according to age, race, and Hispanic origin: United States, 1989

Age, race, and Hispanic origin	Smokeless tobacco-use status					
	Male teenagers ¹	Never used	Ever used	Total ever used	Used regularly	Never used regularly
Number in thousands						
Total ²	12,219	8,386	3,819	3,819	840	2,979
Age						
12-13 years	3,391	2,961	422	422	51	371
14-15 years	3,434	2,466	969	969	182	786
16-18 years	5,394	2,959	2,428	2,428	607	1,821
Race						
White	9,915	6,370	3,530	3,530	800	2,731
Black	1,814	1,601	213	213	*16	197
Hispanic origin						
Hispanic	1,182	1,024	158	158	*15	143
Non-Hispanic	11,038	7,362	3,660	3,660	825	2,836
Percent distribution						
Total ²	100.0	68.6	31.3	100.0	22.0	78.0
Age						
12-13 years	100.0	87.3	12.4	100.0	12.1	87.9
14-15 years	100.0	71.8	28.2	100.0	18.8	81.1
16-18 years	100.0	54.9	45.0	100.0	25.0	75.0
Race						
White	100.0	64.2	35.6	100.0	22.7	77.4
Black	100.0	88.3	11.7	100.0	*7.5	92.5
Hispanic origin						
Hispanic	100.0	86.6	13.4	100.0	*9.5	90.5
Non-Hispanic	100.0	66.7	33.2	100.0	22.5	77.5

¹Includes unknown smokeless tobacco-use status.²Includes all other races.

Table 6. Number and percent distribution of male teenagers by correlate of use, according to smokeless tobacco–use status: United States, 1989

<i>Correlates of smokeless tobacco–use</i>	<i>Smokeless tobacco–use status</i>				
	<i>Male teenagers¹</i>	<i>Never used</i>	<i>Ever used</i>	<i>Used regularly</i>	<i>Never used regularly</i>
	Number in thousands				
Total ²	12,219	8,441	3,766	783	2,983
	Percent distribution				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Persons in household who use chewing tobacco or snuff					
No user of smokeless tobacco	91.9	95.3	84.4	73.6	87.2
Father and no older brother(s)	4.2	2.6	7.9	11.1	7.0
Father and older brother(s)	*0.2	*0.1	*0.5	*1.9	0.2
Older brother(s) and not father	1.9	0.8	4.4	9.1	3.2
All others, excluding father and older brother(s).	1.6	1.1	2.8	*4.3	2.3
Relatives not in household who use chewing tobacco or snuff					
No user of smokeless tobacco	78.3	83.4	66.9	51.9	70.9
Father and no older brother(s)	0.5	*0.3	1.2	*2.6	0.8
Older brother(s) and not father	1.1	0.5	2.5	5.4	1.7
All others, excluding father and older brother(s).	17.6	13.4	27.1	39.1	24.0
"How you think your best friends would feel about you using chewing tobacco or snuff regularly?"					
Approve	2.2	1.4	4.0	12.1	1.8
Disapprove	65.3	74.6	44.5	24.6	49.7
Not care	31.8	23.1	51.4	62.8	48.3
"How many people your age use chewing tobacco or snuff?"					
None	47.2	59.9	19.2	*4.6	23.3
A few	30.2	26.0	39.7	38.5	40.0
Some	15.4	10.3	26.8	26.5	26.9
Most or all	6.1	2.5	13.9	29.2	9.6
"Do you believe using chewing tobacco and snuff can cause cancer?"					
Yes	94.4	93.3	96.8	95.8	97.0
No	2.8	3.1	2.1	*3.2	1.8
Don't know	2.6	3.4	*0.9	*0.7	*1.0

¹Includes unknown smokeless tobacco–use status.

²Includes unknown correlates of use.

Table 7. Number and percent distribution of teenagers by knowledge and attitudes about smoking and exposure to smoking risks, according to smoking status: United States, 1989

Knowledge, attitudes, and risk exposure	Smoking status										
	All statuses	Never smoked				Experimenter	Former smoker	Current smoker			
		All never smoked	No intention	May smoke	All current smokers ¹			Heavy	Light	Occasional	
All teenagers ²	23,528	12,822	11,055	1,766	Number in thousands		3,620	1,554	572	1,250	
					Percent distribution						
All teenagers	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
"Media, TV, radio exposure to health risks of smoking?"											
Yes	81.9	82.2	82.0	83.5	82.1	81.1	80.6	80.0	79.0	81.6	
No	17.9	17.6	17.7	16.4	17.8	19.3	19.1	19.8	20.3	18.0	
"Do you believe it is safe to smoke for only a year or 2?"											
Yes	7.1	3.3	2.8	6.3	6.7	15.2	20.6	25.2	20.6	15.0	
No	91.9	95.9	96.5	91.9	92.2	84.2	78.1	72.6	79.0	84.2	
Don't know	0.9	0.8	0.6	*1.5	1.0	*0.6	1.3	*2.0	*0.3	*0.9	
"Do you believe there is any harm in having an occasional cigarette?"											
Yes	66.6	75.6	77.7	62.5	62.6	55.0	42.8	43.7	43.5	41.8	
No	32.4	23.3	21.4	34.9	36.3	42.9	56.7	55.7	55.9	57.4	
Don't know	0.9	1.0	0.7	2.3	0.9	*2.2	*0.5	*0.5	*0.5	*0.8	
"Do you believe smoking can help people when they are bored?"											
Yes	7.0	3.8	3.3	7.3	6.4	9.9	18.8	23.0	18.7	14.1	
No	92.1	95.1	95.8	90.8	92.9	89.4	80.3	75.3	81.3	85.3	
Don't know	0.8	0.9	0.8	*1.5	*0.5	*0.6	*0.7	*1.3	*. . .	*0.6	
"Do you believe cigarette smoking helps people relax?"											
Yes	26.6	16.4	15.7	24.3	27.5	47.4	58.5	63.6	63.0	48.9	
No	69.7	79.9	81.5	72.4	68.8	49.1	38.7	33.7	30.2	49.8	
Don't know	3.5	3.6	2.8	3.0	3.7	*2.3	2.6	*2.3	6.6	*1.2	
"Do you believe cigarette smoking helps reduce stress?"											
Yes	19.5	12.0	10.9	18.7	18.7	29.8	46.5	54.4	53.0	33.9	
No	77.7	84.9	86.2	77.2	78.5	68.9	51.7	43.1	45.1	64.9	
Don't know	2.6	3.0	2.8	3.7	2.5	*1.6	1.6	*2.1	*1.7	*1.1	
"Do you believe smoking helps people feel more comfortable in social situations?"											
Yes	39.1	29.7	28.6	36.9	45.8	53.1	58.6	57.5	65.4	55.9	
No	58.1	66.8	68.2	58.4	51.8	46.0	40.0	40.5	33.7	42.8	
Don't know	2.6	3.3	3.1	4.3	2.2	*0.9	1.3	*1.6	*0.9	*1.3	
"Do you believe smoking helps people keep their weight down?"											
Yes	17.8	13.2	13.0	15.1	19.2	25.5	30.3	36.2	28.8	24.3	
No	79.8	84.4	84.7	82.1	78.4	73.9	67.5	61.4	69.4	73.2	
Don't know	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.4	2.3	*0.9	2.0	*1.9	*1.7	*2.5	
"Do you believe almost all doctors are strongly against smoking?"											
Yes	79.7	80.1	82.3	76.7	78.8	80.1	80.5	81.6	79.6	80.1	
No	17.7	17.3	16.1	21.4	18.8	17.3	16.7	15.7	16.3	17.7	
Don't know	2.5	2.5	1.5	*1.4	2.3	*2.6	2.6	*2.4	*4.1	*2.2	
"Do you believe using chewing tobacco and snuff can cause cancer?"											
Yes	94.5	94.2	95.3	93.3	94.9	93.0	95.4	94.6	95.6	95.6	
No	2.3	2.6	2.5	2.8	2.0	*2.0	2.1	*2.2	*1.7	*2.6	
Don't know	3.0	3.0	2.2	3.5	3.0	*5.0	2.2	2.5	*2.5	*1.8	
"I strongly dislike being around people who are smoking."											
Agree	64.9	77.8	79.6	66.5	66.0	37.6	19.4	10.9	15.4	32.3	
Disagree	22.4	12.9	12.1	17.8	18.9	38.2	60.9	73.9	68.2	40.2	
No opinion	12.5	9.0	8.0	15.2	14.9	24.2	19.4	14.5	16.4	27.3	

See footnote at end of table.

Table 7. Number and percent distribution of teenagers by knowledge and attitudes about smoking and exposure to smoking risks, according to smoking status: United States, 1989—Con.

Knowledge, attitudes, and risk exposure	Smoking status									
	All statuses	Never smoked			Experimenter	Former smoker	Current smoker			
		All never smoked	No intention	May smoke			All current smokers ¹	Heavy	Light	Occasional
"When I'm older my parents won't mind if I smoke."	Percent distribution									
Agree	17.2	10.6	9.8	15.7	17.8	25.5	38.7	49.9	41.8	24.7
Disagree	77.6	84.5	85.9	75.6	77.8	70.2	53.9	42.1	49.7	69.7
No opinion	4.8	4.5	3.9	7.9	4.1	*4.3	7.2	7.4	8.4	5.6
"Seeing someone smoking turns me off."										
Agree	67.1	78.5	80.9	63.9	71.0	39.8	22.3	11.1	15.2	37.5
Disagree	22.4	12.9	11.6	21.5	18.1	41.6	62.2	76.5	70.5	42.4
No opinion	10.2	8.2	7.3	14.2	10.7	18.6	15.2	11.6	14.3	20.1
"I'd rather date people who don't smoke."										
Agree	85.9	94.1	94.7	90.2	90.1	71.4	50.9	32.7	43.4	74.2
Disagree	7.9	3.2	2.7	6.2	5.1	*9.6	29.4	41.7	32.7	13.8
No opinion	5.9	2.4	2.3	3.1	4.5	19.3	19.4	24.8	23.8	11.9
"(If I started) I could stop smoking anytime I wanted."										
Agree	17.8	11.4	11.3	11.9	18.1	29.8	38.5	19.0	46.7	56.1
Disagree	72.6	78.7	79.0	76.6	72.1	66.8	53.0	72.2	46.5	35.5
No opinion	9.0	9.3	9.2	10.0	9.3	*3.4	8.0	7.8	*6.8	8.4
"I personally don't mind being around people who are smoking."										
Agree	34.8	22.3	20.5	33.6	35.1	57.5	76.7	85.5	84.8	62.2
Disagree	58.0	70.9	73.2	56.3	57.0	34.8	16.6	9.7	10.8	27.1
No opinion	6.8	6.5	6.0	9.7	7.7	*8.1	6.2	4.1	*4.4	10.0
"I get a kick out of doing things every now and then that are a little risky or dangerous."										
Agree	41.9	30.2	28.5	37.5	52.8	59.1	60.6	59.9	66.5	59.4
Disagree	49.6	60.8	62.5	49.8	39.2	33.6	31.8	32.7	26.7	31.8
No opinion	7.9	8.4	8.5	12.1	7.6	*7.3	7.1	6.5	*6.2	8.9
"Have you ever taken a class or course at school in which the health risks of smoking were discussed."										
Yes	75.2	73.7	74.9	66.7	78.0	82.0	74.4	73.7	77.1	74.2
No	24.1	25.4	24.5	31.6	21.5	18.0	24.6	24.4	22.6	25.4

¹Includes unknown type of current smoker.

²Difference in total number of teenagers from table 1 due to Computer-Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) versus CATI-Mail sample size (see Technical notes). Includes unknowns.

Technical notes

Source and description of data

This report contains data from the 1989 Teenage Attitudes and Practices Survey (TAPS). The TAPS was a targeted population study of U.S. teenagers 12–18 years of age. The study was conducted by the National Center for Health Statistics's National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) and co-sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control's Office on Smoking and Health, the National Cancer Institute, and the American Cancer Society.

The TAPS survey was designed to obtain current national household data about current cigarette-smoking behavior and lifetime smoking practices of adolescents and their beliefs about smoking. Selected correlate measures associated with smoking uptake were also addressed in the study.

The TAPS sample was derived from NHIS household interviews conducted during the final two quarters of 1988 and the first two quarters of 1989. Included in the sample were all sample teenagers living in households contacted and interviewed during this period that were 12–18 years of age as of November 1, 1989. The eligible sample for the TAPS was 12,097 persons.

TAPS utilized two modes of data collection. The primary method consisted of computer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) in households where a telephone number was provided during the original NHIS interview. In addition, self-administered questionnaires were mailed to sample teenagers living in households without telephones or an available telephone number. Mail questionnaires were also sent to those teenagers that could not be reached using the CATI method. Telephone interviews and all other data-collection activities were performed by U.S. Bureau of the Census personnel. Data collection began in August 1989 and continued through March 1990.

Unlike the original NHIS interview, the TAPS survey design required that all teenagers respond for themselves. However, prior to the initial telephone contact, advance letters were mailed to a parent or guardian and to each eligible teenager in the household explaining the sponsorship and objectives of the upcoming survey and assuring confidentiality.

The total interviewed TAPS sample included 9,965 adolescents—9,135 responded in CATI interviews and 830 completed mail questionnaires. The total combined response rate for the TAPS from these two data collection procedures was 82.4 percent. Most of the nonresponse resulted from teenagers' failure to return the mail questionnaire. Only 3.1 percent of interviews of adolescents reached by telephone ended in a refusal, either because of the parents or teenagers initial refusal or because of subsequent termination of the interview. Item nonresponse was less than 1 percent for the questions discussed in this report. More details about non-response are available in a recent report (17).

Sampling errors

Because estimates shown in this report are based on a sample of the population rather than on the entire population, they are subject to sampling error. When an estimate or the numerator or denominator of a percent is small, the sampling error may be relatively high. In addition, the complex sample design of the NHIS has the effect of making the sampling errors larger than they would be had a simple random sample of equal size been used.

The following method for computing sampling errors is presented for the convenience of readers who want a simple method to use in calculating standard errors for estimates in this report. More precise methods, such as that available in the software program SUDAAN (19), which estimates standard errors for

complex surveys using Taylor linearization, are recommended for detailed analysis of NHIS data.

Approximate standard errors of the estimated numbers (x) in this report (except for all teenagers, by age, race, and sex when the standard error is assumed to be 0.0) may be calculated using the formula

$$SE(x) = \sqrt{0.0000307(x)^2 + 3,640(x)}$$

Except as noted, approximate standard errors of the estimated percents in this report may be calculated using the formula

$$SE(p) = \sqrt{\frac{3,640(p)(100-p)}{y}}$$

where p is the estimated percent and y is the population denominator.

Approximate standard errors for the percents in table 5, by age and race, may be calculated by using the formula

$$SE(p) = p \sqrt{0.0000307 + 3,640/x}$$

where p is the estimated percent and $x = py/100$ with y = the population denominator.

If x_1 and x_2 are two estimates, then the approximate standard error of the difference ($x_1 - x_2$) can be computed as follows:

$$\sqrt{SE(x_1)^2 + SE(x_2)^2 - 2r SE(x_1) SE(x_2)}$$

where $SE(x_1)$ and $SE(x_2)$ are computed using the appropriate formulas previously presented in this section, and r is the correlation coefficient between x_1 and x_2 (assuming $r = 0.0$ will result in an accurate standard error if the two estimates are actually uncorrelated and will result in an overestimate of the standard error if the correlation is positive or an underestimate if the correlation is negative).

In this report, unless otherwise noted, a difference was considered statistically significant at the 5-percent level if the difference ($x_1 - x_2$) was at least twice as large as its standard error.

Related documentation

More detailed discussion of the sample design of the NHIS, estimating procedures, procedures for estimating standard errors, nonsampling errors, and definitions of other sociodemographic terms used in this report have been published in *Vital and Health Statistics*, Series 10, numbers 160 and 176; Series 1, number 18; and Series 2, number 110 (20–23).

A public use data file based on the 1989 TAPS was released in February 1992. Information regarding its purchase may be obtained by writing to the Division of Health Interview Statistics, National Center for Health Statistics, 6525 Belcrest Road, Hyattsville, Maryland 20782.

Definition of terms— TAPS Adolescent smoking status categories

Never smoked—Never smoked a cigarette.

Never smoked, no intention—Never smoked a cigarette or tried or experimented with cigarette smoking; will not try a cigarette soon; and definitely will not be smoking in 1 year.

Never smoked, may smoke—Never smoked a cigarette or tried or experimented with cigarette smoking; may try a cigarette soon or may be smoking in 1 year.

Experimenter—Has either smoked a cigarette or tried or experimented with cigarette smoking, but has never

smoked 100 cigarettes and has not smoked in the past 30 days.

Former smoker—Has smoked at least 100 cigarettes but has not smoked in the past 30 days.

Current smoker—Has smoked a cigarette in the past 30 days.

Current light smoker—Has smoked 10 or more days in the past 30 days, and smoked an average of fewer than five cigarettes per day in the past 7 days.

Current heavy smoker—Has smoked 10 or more days in the past 30 days, and smoked an average of five cigarettes or more per day in the past 7 days.

Current occasional smoker—Has smoked 1 to 9 days in the past 30 days.

Suggested citation

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