Risk Behaviors

Smoking

Cigarette smoking is one of the leading causes of preventable deaths in the United States.¹⁷ Smoking is associated with deaths related to cancer, respiratory diseases, and cardiovascular diseases.¹⁸ About 10.1% of deaths among Georgia adults are linked to smoking.¹⁸

In 2014, 17.4% of Georgia adults were current cigarette smokers and 22.4% were former smokers.

- Adult males (21.4%) were significantly more likely to currently smoke cigarettes than females (13.6%).
- Adults with an annual income of less than \$15,000 (33.5%) were more likely to currently smoke cigarettes than those with an annual income of \$15,000 or greater.
- Adults with less than a high school education (31.8%) were significantly more likely to currently smoke cigarettes compared to high school graduates (20.4%), those with some college (16.6%), and college graduates (5.6%).
- Adults with health insurance (15.4%) were significantly less likely to currently smoke compared to adults without health insurance (31.4%).

The HP 2020 target for current cigarette smokers is 12%.







	Current Smoker ^a		Former Smoker ^b	
Demographic				
Characteristics	%	95% CI	%	95% CI
State Totals	17.4	(16.0, 18.8)	22.4	(21.1, 23.8)
Sex		(,,		(, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
Male	21.4	(19.1, 23.9)	26.5	(24.3, 28.8)
Female	13.6	(12.1, 15.3)	18.6	(17.0, 20.2)
Race/Ethnicity				
White Non-Hispanic	19.3	(17.5, 21.2)	27.4	(25.6, 29.2)
Black Non-Hispanic	14.6	(12.2, 17.5)	16.3	(14.0, 18.8)
Hispanic	15.6	(10.4, 22.7)	14.4	(10.0, 20.5)
Age				
18-24 yr	16.4	(12.3, 21.6)	7.3	(4.8, 11.0)
25-34 yr	23.5	(19.3, 28.3)	13.2	(10.2, 17.0)
35-44 yr	18.3	(15.0, 22.2)	16.9	(13.8, 20.5)
45-54 yr	18.9	(15.9, 22.3)	22.9	(19.8, 26.2)
55-64 yr	18.9	(16.2, 22.0)	31.5	(28.3, 35.0)
65+ yr	8.1	(6.7, 9.8)	40.7	(38.1, 43.4)
Income				
Less than \$15,000	33.5	(28.1, 39.4)	20.2	(16.4, 24.7)
\$15,000-\$24,999	19.5	(16.2, 23.3)	23.0	(19.7, 26.6)
\$25,000-\$34,999	20.0	(15.8, 25.0)	23.0	(18.9, 27.7)
\$35,000-\$49,999	17.0	(13.3, 21.5)	25.0	(21.0, 29.5)
\$50,000-\$74,999	17.4	(13.9, 21.7)	22.6	(19.2, 26.5)
\$75,000 or More	8.1	(6.4, 10.4)	22.8	(20.3, 25.4)
Education				
Less than High School	31.8	(26.7, 37.4)	21.3	(17.5, 25.6)
High School Graduate	20.4	(17.9, 23.2)	23.4	(20.9, 26.1)
Some College	16.6	(14.3, 19.1)	25.3	(22.8, 28.1)
College Graduate	5.6	(4.5, 6.9)	18.5	(16.7, 20.4)
Health Insurance				
Coverage				
Has Health Insurance	15.4	(13.8, 17.1)	19.6	(18.0, 21.4)
No Health Insurance	31.4	(27.1, 36.1)	15.5	(12.6, 19.0)
Employment				
Employed	17.1	(15.3, 19.1)	18.8	(17.1, 20.6)
Unemployed	22.9	(19.7, 26.3)	19.6	(17.0, 22.5)
Retired	9.7	(7.9, 11.7)	40.3	(37.4, 43.2)
^a The proportion of adults who reported that they had smoked at least				

^a The proportion of adults who reported that they had smoked at least 100 cigarettes (5 packs) in their life and they currently smoke

cigarettes, either every day or on some days.

^b The proportion of adults who reported that they had smoked at least 100 cigarettes (5 packs) in their life but do not currently smoke.

Percent of Adults who currently Smoke Cigarettes, by Health District, Georgia, 2014



Risk Behaviors

Smokeless Tobacco

Smokeless tobacco is known to cause cancer of the oral cavity and pancreas, and should not be considered a safe substitute for smoking cigarettes.¹⁹ The two main types of smokeless tobacco sold in the United States are chewing tobacco and snuff.

In 2014, 4.7% of Georgia adults reported using smokeless tobacco.

- Adult males (8.3%) were significantly more likely to use smokeless tobacco compared to females (1.5%).
- White non-Hispanics (5.8%) were more likely to use smokeless tobacco compared to black non-Hispanics (3.6%) and Hispanics (2.6%).
- A higher proportion of adults with a household income of less than \$15,000 (6.9%) used smokeless tobacco.
- Adults with less than high school education (8.8%) were significantly more likely to use smokeless tobacco compared to college graduates (2.1%).







The HP 2020 target for smokeless tobacco use is 0.3%.

	Smokeless Tobacco Use ^a		
Demographic Characteristics	%	95% CI	
State Totals	4.7	(4.0, 5.7)	
Sex			
Male	8.3	(6.8, 10.1)	
Female	1.5	(1.1, 2.0)	
Race/Ethnicity			
White Non-Hispanic	5.8	(4.8, 7.1)	
Black Non-Hispanic	3.6	(2.3, 5.6)	
Hispanic	2.6	(1.0, 6.6)	
Age			
18-24 yr	5.4	(3.3, 8.8)	
25-34 yr	5.6	(3.4, 9.1)	
35-44 yr	5.3	(3.5, 7.9)	
45-54 yr	5.5	(3.8, 7.7)	
55-64 yr	3.3	(2.2, 5.0)	
65+ yr	3.4	(2.5, 4.5)	
Income			
Less than \$15,000	6.9	(4.1, 11.4)	
\$15,000-\$24,999	5.9	(4.1, 8.5)	
\$25,000-\$34,999	4.3	(2.5, 7.5)	
\$35,000-\$49,999	3.8	(2.3, 6.3)	
\$50,000-\$74,999	5.3	(3.3, 8.3)	
\$75,000 or More	3.0	(1.9, 4.5)	
Education			
Less than High School	8.8	(6.0, 12.7)	
High School Graduate	6.6	(5.0, 8.6)	
Some College	3.1	(2.1, 4.5)	
College Graduate	2.1	(1.4, 3.1)	
Health Insurance Coverage			
Has Health Insurance	4.8	(3.9, 6.0)	
No Health Insurance	5.8	(3.7, 8.9)	
Employment			
Employed	4.7	(3.8, 5.8)	
Unemployed	6.1	(4.2, 8.7)	
Retired	2.9	(1.9, 4.3)	

^aThe proportion of adults who reported that they currently use chewing tobacco, snuff or snus, either every day or some days.

Percent of Adults who used Smokeless Tobacco, by Health District, Georgia, 2014

