

Current Cigarette Smoking Among Mississippi Adults in 2020

The Mississippi Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) is conducted annually to monitor the prevalence of behaviors that contribute to the leading causes of morbidity and mortality among adults in our state. The 2020 Mississippi BRFSS was completed by 6,479 Mississippians aged 18 years or older.

Cigarette Smoking in the United States

- Tobacco use is the leading cause of preventable illness, disability, and death in the United States.¹
- About 34 million adults smoke cigarettes. More than 480,000 deaths each year are due to cigarette smoking, including 41,000 deaths from secondhand smoke.¹
- Approximately 30 Americans live with a serious smoking-related disease for every American who dies from one.¹
- The cost of smoking-related illnesses exceeds \$300 billion each year, including more than \$225 billion in direct medical costs.¹

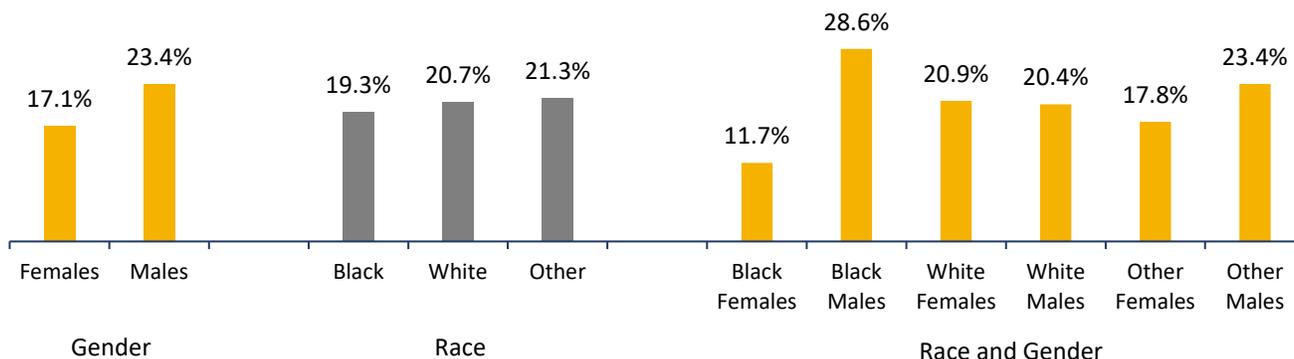
Cigarette Smoking in Mississippi in 2020

- Approximately 1 in 5 adults were current smokers.³
- The percentage of current smokers was significantly **higher** among **males** (23.4%) compared to females (17.1%).³ (Figure 1)
- The percentage of current smokers was **highest** among those of **Other races** (21.3%) compared to the Black (19.3%) and White (20.7%) race groups; however, this difference was not statistically significant.³ (Figure 1)
- The percentage of current smokers was significantly **lower** among **Black females** (11.7%) compared to other Black and White gender groups.³ (Figure 1)

Definitions

- The BRFSS defines a **current cigarette smoker** as an adult who has smoked at least 100 cigarettes in their lifetime and who, at the time of participation in the survey, reported smoking every day or some days.²
- In this report, “**current smokers**” refers to adults who **reported** current cigarette smoking.
- The difference between two estimates is considered **statistically significant** (also stated as “significantly higher/lower” or “significant” in this fact sheet) if the 95% confidence intervals do not overlap.

Figure 1. 2020 Percentage of Current Cigarette Smoking Among Mississippi Adults by Gender and Race

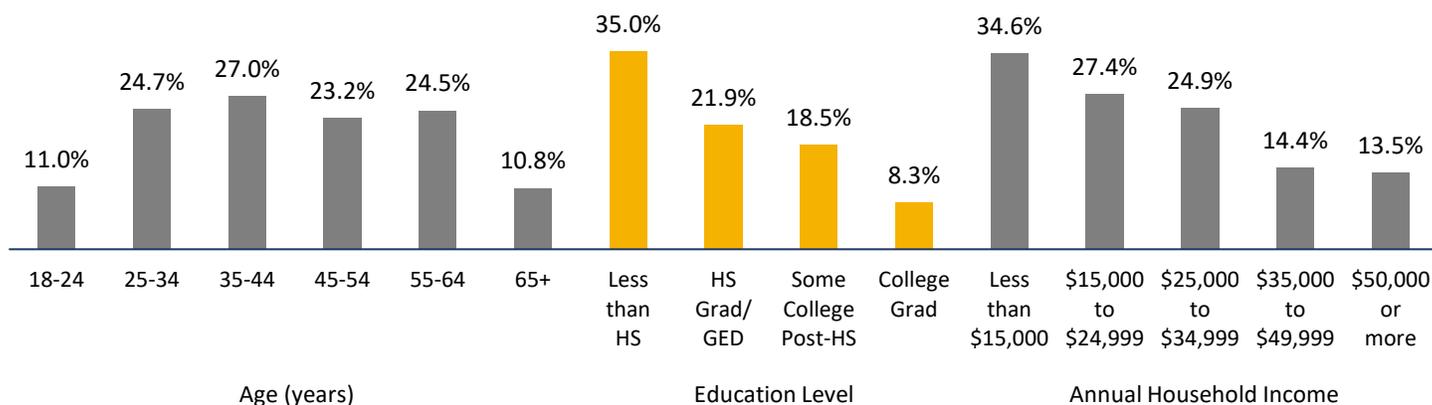


Note: In the 2020 MS BRFSS, the numbers of responses for individual races and ethnicities contained in the “Other Races” demographic group were too low to allow for meaningful estimates. To request additional race/ethnicity data, please [submit a data request using MSDH's online form](#).

Cigarette Smoking in Mississippi in 2020 (continued)

- The percentage of current smokers was significantly **lower** among those **aged 18 to 24 years** (11.0%) and those **aged 65 years old and older** (10.8%) compared to other age groups.³ (Figure 2)
- The percentage of current smokers was significantly **higher** among adults who have **not completed a high school education** (35.0%) compared to those with a high school education or higher.³ (Figure 2)
- The percentage of current smokers was significantly **higher** among adults with an annual household **income of less than \$35,000** compared to those with higher annual household incomes.³ (Figure 2)

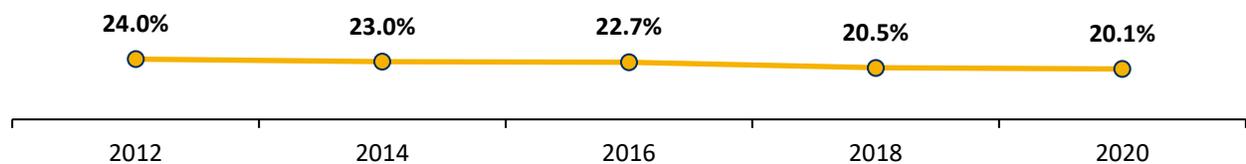
Figure 2. 2020 Percentage of Current Cigarette Smoking Among MS Adults by Age, Education Level, and Annual Household Income



Cigarette Smoking Trends in Mississippi

- The percentage of adults who were **current smokers significantly decreased** from **24.0%** in 2012 to **20.1%** in 2020.³ (Figure 3)

Figure 3. 2012-2020 Trend of Current Cigarette Smoking Among Adults in MS



References

- 1) Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). (2021, March 3). Tobacco use. *National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion*. Retrieved 7-12-2021, from <https://www.cdc.gov/chronicdisease/pdf/factsheets/tobacco-H.pdf>
- 2) Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). (2021, July 6). Calculated variables in the 2020 data file of the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System. Retrieved 5-12-2022, from https://www.cdc.gov/brfss/annual_data/2020/pdf/2020-calculated-variables-version4-508.pdf
- 3) Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). (2022, May 4). *Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System*. Retrieved 5-12-2022, from <https://www.cdc.gov/brfss/index.html>

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Rev. 06/08/22

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