



Tobacco Use Supplement Current Population Survey

Since 1992, the Tobacco Use Supplement-Current Population Survey (TUS-CPS) has served as a key source of national, state, and sub-state data on tobacco use behaviors, attitudes, and policies in the United States. The TUS is conducted every 3-4 years as part of the CPS, a monthly survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau for the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

In each wave, TUS-CPS collects nationally representative data from about 240,000 adults, 180,000 from self-respondents. About two-thirds of respondents complete the questionnaire by telephone and responses for the remaining third are obtained through in-person interviews. The survey is regularly conducted in English and Spanish, and other languages when needed. For more information on the TUS-CPS, visit cancercontrol.cancer.gov/tus-cps.

How can the unique features of the TUS-CPS survey be used?

- Track long-term trends in tobacco use, cessation behaviors, and tobacco-related policies
- Evaluate national and sub-national tobacco control programs, including workplace and home smoking/vaping restrictions and attitudes toward smoking restrictions in multi-unit housing, clinician advice to stop smoking, and the “real price” of cigarettes
- Study tobacco-related health disparities and conduct other tobacco control research
- Evaluate tobacco use in context with CPS’ detailed occupational and economic data and other CPS supplements
- Link tobacco use data to health outcomes data with the National Longitudinal Mortality Study
- Conduct analysis of periodic one-year prospective follow-up of a subset of respondents

TUS-CPS topics:

- Current cigarette smoking status, number of cigarettes smoked per day, and smoking history
- Cigar, pipe (hookah/waterpipe since 2010), and smokeless tobacco current use and history of use
- E-cigarette use (since 2011) and device type (since 2018-2019)
- Menthol cigarette use (since 2003), history of use (since 2010-2011), reasons for use (2010-2011), and other products’ flavor use (since 2010-2011)
- Quit attempts, cessation aids, and intentions to quit
- Physician and dentist advice to quit (dental advice dropped since 2014-2015)
- Nicotine dependence (since 2003)
- Switching to other tobacco products
- Cost of cigarettes and purchase location (since 2003) and cost of e-cigarettes (since 2018-2019)
- Workplace and home restrictions for smoking (since 1992-1993) and e-cigarette use (since 2018-2019)
- Attitudes toward smoke-free policies in public places and workplaces (since 1992-1993), and in multi-unit housing (since 2014-2015)
- Exposure to federal court-mandated tobacco company corrective statements about the dangers of smoking cigarettes (2018-2019)

Is the TUS-CPS questionnaire always the same?

It generally covers the topics listed above, but recent versions have varied. For example, some versions had a special focus on tobacco cessation and/or menthol cigarette use and included more detailed questions on length of last quit attempt occurring over the preceding 12 months; treatment and other methods used to quit; level of nicotine dependence; and reasons for use of type of cigarettes smoked.

The 2018-2019 TUS-CPS included new questions categorizing e-cigarette device type, policies about e-cigarette use in the workplace and rules inside the home, and exposure to federal court-mandated tobacco company corrective statements about the dangers of smoking cigarettes.

Important links:

- To sign up for TUS-CPS news, updates, and training opportunities: cancercontrol.cancer.gov/TUSsubscribe
- To obtain questionnaires, data, or supporting documentation: cancercontrol.cancer.gov/brp/tcrb/tus-cps/questionnaires.html
- More information on CPS Supplement Topics: census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/about/supplemental-surveys.html
- Information about NCI’s Tobacco Control Research Branch: cancercontrol.cancer.gov/brp/tcrb

2018-2019 TUS-CPS Initial Release: July 2018 Data Now Available!

The initial release from the 2018-2019 TUS-CPS, consisting of July 2018 data, is now publicly available. A subsequent data release will include the remaining two time points of data (January 2019 and May 2019) and is expected to be available in late Spring 2020.

To download the data: cancercontrol.cancer.gov/tus-cps-data-2018

For more information about the data: cancercontrol.cancer.gov/tus-cps-technical-doc-2018

