



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 winter 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

