

PRESS RELEASE

World No Tobacco Day 2023

17% of Egyptians are smokers

Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (CAPMAS) issued today, 31/5/ 2023, a press release on the occasion of celebrating World No Tobacco Day, which is organized by the World Health Organization (WHO) on the 31st of May every year to highlight the health risks associated with tobacco use and to advocate for effective policies to reduce tobacco consumption in order to protect current and future generations from these devastating health consequences, but also from the social, environmental and economic calamities of tobacco use and exposure to its smoke.

This year, the World Health Organization is adopting a promotional campaign under the slogan; "Grow food, not tobacco.". This campaign encourages governments to put an end to tobacco growing subsidies and use savings to support farmers to switch to more sustainable crops that improve food security and nutrition.

This statement includes the most important global and Egyptian facts and indicators in this regard.

First: The most important indicators of smoking in Egypt, according to the preliminary results of the Household Income, Expenditure and Consumption Survey, 2021/2022:

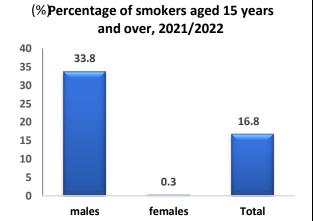
- 1. Tobacco use is a major risk factor for heart diseases, respiratory diseases, and more than 20 different types of cancer.
- 2. Every year more than 8 million people die due to tobacco use. Most tobaccorelated deaths occur in low- and middle-income countries.
- 3. Exposure to second-hand smoke (passive smoking) leads to harmful health consequences, causing 1.2 million deaths annually.

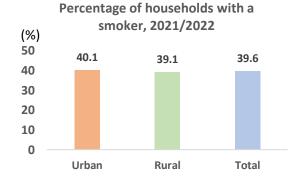
- 4. Around half of all children breathe air polluted by tobacco smoke, and 65,000 children die each year from diseases due to second-hand smoke.
- 5. Smoking during pregnancy can lead to lifelong health complications for babies.

Second: the most important indicators of smoking in Egypt.

16.8% of total population aged 15 years and over smoke, which represents about 18 million people. The percentage of male smokers is 33.8%, compared to only 0.3% among females, which indicates that the phenomenon of smoking in Egypt is mainly a male phenomenon.

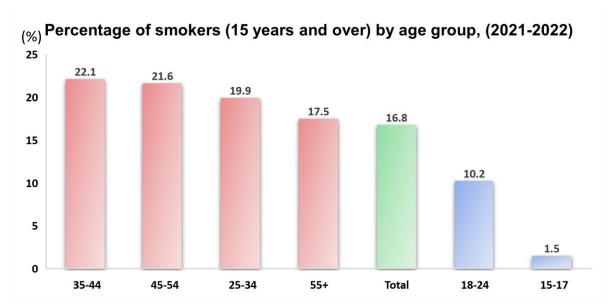
The percentage of households with at least one smoker on the total level of Egypt is 39.6%. This means that there are about 23 million non-smokers, but they are exposed to passive smoking due to presence of a smoker in the household. Therefore, in spite of the fact that smoking



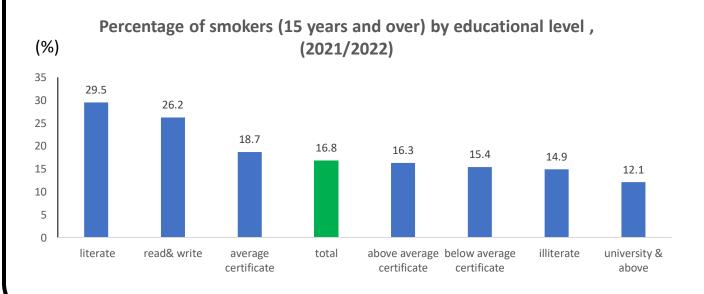


is mainly a male phenomenon and the percentage of female smokers is low, a large percentage of women and children become exposed to passive smoking due to the presence of at least one member of the family who smokes.

The highest percentage of smokers is in the age group (35-44 years), where the percentage among them records 22.1%, followed by the age group (45-54 years) with 21.6, then the age group (25-34 years) with about 19.9%. These percentages are considered high and have serious significances, especially if we take into account that these age groups are the young groups that are considered the main labor force in society.



The highest percentage of smokers among different educational levels was for those with a literacy certificate at 29.5%, followed by those who read and write, where the percentage of smokers among them is 26.2%, and the lowest percentage of smokers at all is found among those with a university degree or higher at 12.1%.



It is worth mentioning here that the average family share of annual expenditure on smoking, according to the sample of the Household income, expenditure and consumption, is 2665.4 Egyptian pounds.

Sources:

- Preliminary results of Egypt's Household Income, Expenditure and Consumption Survey (HIECS), 2021/2022.
- World Health Organization Website: https://www.who.int/ar/health-topics/tobacco#tab=tab_1

P.O. Box 2086 Salah Salem, Nasr City, Cairo, Egypt

Telephone: Public Relations: (02) 24021559. | customer service: (02) 24002706

Fax: 24024099 | E-mail: pres_capmas@capmas.gov.eg | Website: www.capmas.gov.eg