

Table TOB–4a. Age-adjusted percent distribution (with standard errors) of age of smoking initiation, for all current cigarette smokers aged 18 and over, by sex and selected characteristics: United States, annualized, 2011–2014

Selected characteristic	All current cigarette smokers aged 18 and over	Less than 16 years ¹	16-17 years ¹	18-20 years ¹	21 years and over ¹
Both sexes	100.0	30.5 (0.45)	23.5 (0.35)	28.3 (0.42)	17.7 (0.33)
Age					
18–24 years	100.0	29.4 (1.55)	33.9 (1.54)	32.2 (1.36)	4.5 (0.60)
25–44 years	100.0	30.0 (0.62)	23.6 (0.55)	28.9 (0.62)	17.4 (0.50)
45–64 years	100.0	31.0 (0.67)	21.4 (0.51)	26.3 (0.60)	21.3 (0.58)
65–74 years	100.0	31.4 (1.33)	19.3 (1.18)	27.5 (1.35)	21.8 (1.13)
75 years and over	100.0	31.6 (2.32)	18.6 (1.99)	26.6 (2.15)	23.2 (1.99)
Race					
One race ²	100.0	30.4 (0.44)	23.6 (0.36)	28.3 (0.42)	17.7 (0.33)
White	100.0	32.2 (0.50)	24.4 (0.41)	27.5 (0.46)	15.9 (0.36)
Black or African American	100.0	21.3 (0.78)	19.7 (0.78)	32.2 (0.98)	26.9 (0.89)
American Indian or Alaska Native	100.0	35.4 (3.18)	21.8 (3.06)	26.2 (3.19)	16.5 (2.91)
Asian	100.0	16.3 (1.71)	18.3 (1.80)	35.6 (2.34)	29.8 (2.29)
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	100.0	23.6 (5.44)	*20.2 (7.20)	37.8 (10.72)	*18.5 (7.26)
Two or more races ³	100.0	35.1 (2.71)	20.2 (2.05)	26.4 (2.15)	18.3 (1.79)
Black or African American, white	100.0	29.9 (5.18)	22.8 (6.56)	31.4 (7.14)	15.9 (4.06)
American Indian or Alaska Native, white	100.0	35.9 (3.58)	19.4 (2.52)	27.8 (3.09)	16.9 (2.46)
Hispanic or Latino origin ⁴ and race					
Hispanic or Latino	100.0	30.9 (1.17)	20.5 (1.02)	27.0 (1.04)	21.6 (1.06)
Mexican or Mexican American	100.0	29.1 (1.50)	20.7 (1.39)	29.3 (1.37)	20.9 (1.38)
Not Hispanic or Latino	100.0	30.5 (0.48)	23.9 (0.38)	28.4 (0.45)	17.3 (0.35)
White, single race	100.0	32.4 (0.55)	24.9 (0.44)	27.5 (0.50)	15.2 (0.38)
Black or African American, single race	100.0	21.2 (0.79)	19.7 (0.80)	31.9 (1.00)	27.1 (0.91)
American Indian or Alaska Native, single race	100.0	35.3 (3.64)	24.5 (3.66)	24.9 (3.28)	15.3 (3.44)
Education ⁵					
Less than high school graduate	100.0	42.1 (1.00)	22.3 (0.82)	21.9 (0.82)	13.7 (0.64)
GED or equivalent ⁶	100.0	47.7 (1.78)	22.3 (1.51)	14.8 (1.16)	15.3 (1.40)
High school graduate	100.0	28.6 (0.85)	23.9 (0.77)	28.6 (0.77)	18.9 (0.66)
Some college, no degree	100.0	27.7 (0.91)	21.4 (0.79)	29.9 (0.87)	21.0 (0.78)
Associate of arts degree	100.0	27.9 (1.41)	20.0 (1.03)	30.1 (1.27)	22.0 (1.17)
Bachelor of arts, science degree	100.0	17.6 (1.07)	18.6 (1.11)	36.2 (1.39)	27.6 (1.25)
Master's, professional, or doctoral degree	100.0	15.3 (1.60)	20.9 (1.87)	33.8 (2.17)	29.9 (2.09)
Poverty status ⁷					
Less than 100% of the poverty threshold	100.0	38.4 (0.82)	21.8 (0.68)	23.7 (0.75)	16.0 (0.62)
100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold	100.0	33.9 (0.85)	24.0 (0.78)	24.8 (0.75)	17.3 (0.67)
200% to less than 400% of the poverty threshold	100.0	27.7 (0.87)	23.8 (0.73)	31.1 (0.79)	17.5 (0.62)
400% of the poverty threshold or greater	100.0	23.1 (0.85)	24.1 (0.88)	32.7 (0.96)	20.1 (0.79)

Table TOB–4a. Age-adjusted percent distribution (with standard errors) of age of smoking initiation, for all current cigarette smokers aged 18 and over, by sex and selected characteristics: United States, annualized, 2011–2014

Selected characteristic	All current cigarette smokers aged 18 and over	Less than 16 years ¹	16-17 years ¹	18-20 years ¹	21 years and over ¹
Both sexes (continued)					
Marital status					
Married	100.0	31.0 (0.67)	23.3 (0.59)	28.4 (0.64)	17.2 (0.51)
Widowed	100.0	38.1 (4.05)	17.6 (3.12)	22.6 (3.43)	21.7 (2.81)
Divorced or separated	100.0	31.7 (0.91)	21.4 (0.84)	25.6 (0.88)	21.3 (0.82)
Never married	100.0	27.1 (0.98)	24.3 (0.79)	30.6 (0.98)	18.0 (0.79)
Living with a partner	100.0	35.9 (1.55)	21.5 (1.27)	26.8 (1.34)	15.8 (1.23)
Region					
Northeast	100.0	30.4 (1.15)	26.2 (0.95)	26.9 (0.97)	16.5 (0.87)
Midwest	100.0	30.4 (0.97)	24.2 (0.80)	28.8 (0.97)	16.6 (0.65)
South	100.0	30.6 (0.68)	23.0 (0.50)	27.7 (0.62)	18.6 (0.52)
West	100.0	30.5 (0.89)	21.1 (0.73)	29.7 (0.86)	18.6 (0.74)
Place of residence ⁸					
Large MSA	100.0	27.7 (0.61)	23.1 (0.57)	30.1 (0.65)	19.2 (0.50)
Small MSA	100.0	32.3 (0.92)	23.5 (0.62)	27.7 (0.69)	16.4 (0.52)
Not in MSA	100.0	33.9 (0.85)	24.5 (0.62)	25.4 (0.82)	16.2 (0.75)

Table TOB–4a. Age-adjusted percent distribution (with standard errors) of age of smoking initiation, for all current cigarette smokers aged 18 and over, by sex and selected characteristics: United States, annualized, 2011–2014

Selected characteristic	All current cigarette smokers aged 18 and over	Less than 16 years ¹	16-17 years ¹	18-20 years ¹	21 years and over ¹
Men	100.0	31.4 (0.54)	22.9 (0.50)	29.6 (0.55)	16.2 (0.43)
Age					
18–24 years	100.0	26.1 (1.71)	32.8 (1.81)	37.3 (1.83)	3.8 (0.65)
25–44 years	100.0	27.4 (0.79)	23.1 (0.78)	30.8 (0.84)	18.6 (0.71)
45–64 years	100.0	33.4 (0.96)	20.6 (0.76)	26.1 (0.86)	19.9 (0.76)
65–74 years	100.0	40.1 (1.82)	18.3 (1.57)	27.9 (1.72)	13.7 (1.35)
75 years and over	100.0	44.1 (3.51)	21.7 (3.05)	22.9 (2.96)	11.2 (2.54)
Race					
One race ²	100.0	31.2 (0.54)	23.0 (0.50)	29.6 (0.56)	16.2 (0.43)
White	100.0	33.1 (0.62)	23.8 (0.57)	28.8 (0.62)	14.3 (0.46)
Black or African American	100.0	22.8 (1.09)	19.9 (1.13)	32.5 (1.39)	24.8 (1.19)
American Indian or Alaska Native	100.0	36.2 (4.70)	18.6 (3.91)	28.2 (4.90)	17.0 (4.02)
Asian	100.0	17.0 (2.17)	15.9 (2.16)	37.5 (2.99)	29.6 (2.87)
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	100.0	24.2 (4.23)	*	*35.0 (13.48)	*
Two or more races ³	100.0	38.0 (3.50)	19.7 (2.83)	25.4 (2.80)	16.9 (2.17)
Black or African American, white	100.0	35.6 (8.20)	*9.2 (3.53)	37.4 (4.73)	*17.8 (7.46)
American Indian or Alaska Native, white	100.0	38.3 (5.13)	17.8 (3.70)	29.4 (4.38)	14.5 (2.87)
Hispanic or Latino origin ⁴ and race					
Hispanic or Latino	100.0	32.0 (1.53)	21.6 (1.32)	28.0 (1.36)	18.4 (1.23)
Mexican or Mexican American	100.0	30.9 (1.91)	21.9 (1.70)	29.5 (1.71)	17.7 (1.57)
Not Hispanic or Latino	100.0	31.2 (0.59)	23.1 (0.55)	29.7 (0.60)	15.9 (0.46)
White, single race	100.0	33.1 (0.68)	24.3 (0.63)	28.9 (0.68)	13.6 (0.50)
Black or African American, single race	100.0	23.1 (1.12)	19.8 (1.16)	32.0 (1.42)	25.1 (1.22)
American Indian or Alaska Native, single race	100.0	35.0 (5.53)	22.6 (5.03)	26.4 (5.41)	16.1 (4.74)
Education ⁵					
Less than high school graduate	100.0	44.5 (1.37)	22.0 (1.07)	21.5 (1.13)	12.0 (0.86)
GED or equivalent ⁶	100.0	50.3 (2.23)	20.5 (1.96)	16.1 (1.62)	13.0 (1.72)
High school graduate	100.0	30.4 (1.10)	23.5 (1.08)	29.6 (1.12)	16.5 (0.82)
Some college, no degree	100.0	27.8 (1.28)	20.3 (1.16)	31.7 (1.24)	20.2 (1.10)
Associate of arts degree	100.0	27.9 (2.20)	20.7 (1.67)	32.0 (1.89)	19.5 (1.48)
Bachelor of arts, science degree	100.0	17.0 (1.49)	17.6 (1.44)	36.1 (1.92)	29.3 (1.75)
Master's, professional, or doctoral degree	100.0	17.1 (2.32)	18.3 (2.39)	36.7 (3.17)	27.8 (2.74)
Poverty status ⁷					
Less than 100% of the poverty threshold	100.0	40.2 (1.23)	21.7 (1.06)	24.5 (1.11)	13.6 (0.78)
100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold	100.0	35.1 (1.11)	23.8 (1.02)	25.5 (1.01)	15.6 (0.85)
200% to less than 400% of the poverty threshold	100.0	29.2 (0.99)	23.1 (0.94)	32.6 (1.03)	15.2 (0.74)
400% of the poverty threshold or greater	100.0	24.0 (1.12)	22.5 (1.09)	33.5 (1.27)	20.0 (1.09)

Table TOB–4a. Age-adjusted percent distribution (with standard errors) of age of smoking initiation, for all current cigarette smokers aged 18 and over, by sex and selected characteristics: United States, annualized, 2011–2014

Selected characteristic	All current cigarette smokers aged 18 and over	Less than 16 years ¹	16-17 years ¹	18-20 years ¹	21 years and over ¹
Men (continued)					
Marital status					
Married	100.0	31.4 (0.89)	22.1 (0.78)	29.4 (0.88)	17.2 (0.70)
Widowed	100.0	31.2 (5.79)	13.1 (3.09)	35.1 (6.95)	20.6 (5.05)
Divorced or separated	100.0	32.2 (1.28)	22.0 (1.32)	25.8 (1.41)	20.0 (1.20)
Never married	100.0	27.5 (1.29)	24.9 (1.17)	31.0 (1.19)	16.6 (0.88)
Living with a partner	100.0	38.0 (2.02)	18.8 (1.45)	28.1 (1.85)	15.1 (1.83)
Region					
Northeast	100.0	30.5 (1.43)	26.1 (1.41)	28.0 (1.44)	15.4 (1.20)
Midwest	100.0	30.8 (1.04)	23.4 (1.00)	30.9 (1.15)	15.0 (0.90)
South	100.0	32.4 (0.86)	22.9 (0.78)	28.2 (0.88)	16.6 (0.64)
West	100.0	30.8 (1.22)	19.8 (0.99)	31.6 (1.11)	17.9 (0.88)
Place of residence ⁸					
Large MSA	100.0	28.7 (0.82)	21.5 (0.77)	31.4 (0.87)	18.5 (0.67)
Small MSA	100.0	32.8 (1.02)	24.0 (0.85)	28.9 (0.89)	14.4 (0.64)
Not in MSA	100.0	35.3 (1.04)	25.0 (0.94)	26.5 (1.08)	13.2 (0.89)

Table TOB–4a. Age-adjusted percent distribution (with standard errors) of age of smoking initiation, for all current cigarette smokers aged 18 and over, by sex and selected characteristics: United States, annualized, 2011–2014

Selected characteristic	All current cigarette smokers aged 18 and over	Less than 16 years ¹	16-17 years ¹	18-20 years ¹	21 years and over ¹
Women	100.0	29.9 (0.66)	24.2 (0.57)	26.6 (0.59)	19.3 (0.47)
Age					
18–24 years	100.0	33.8 (2.76)	35.3 (2.62)	25.4 (1.89)	5.4 (1.12)
25–44 years	100.0	33.4 (0.95)	24.3 (0.82)	26.6 (0.86)	15.8 (0.64)
45–64 years	100.0	28.3 (0.86)	22.4 (0.77)	26.6 (0.86)	22.7 (0.81)
65–74 years	100.0	21.3 (1.80)	20.5 (1.76)	27.1 (1.96)	31.2 (1.90)
75 years and over	100.0	22.0 (2.92)	16.2 (2.42)	29.4 (3.09)	32.5 (2.98)
Race					
One race ²	100.0	29.9 (0.67)	24.3 (0.58)	26.6 (0.60)	19.2 (0.48)
White	100.0	31.7 (0.77)	25.0 (0.66)	25.7 (0.66)	17.6 (0.52)
Black or African American	100.0	19.4 (1.01)	19.4 (1.10)	31.8 (1.33)	29.4 (1.31)
American Indian or Alaska Native	100.0	32.9 (5.14)	26.3 (5.26)	24.7 (3.99)	16.1 (4.47)
Asian	100.0	14.8 (2.64)	24.5 (3.23)	31.6 (3.70)	29.0 (3.55)
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	100.0	*30.6 (10.17)	*19.9 (8.10)	*33.7 (11.20)	*15.8 (6.68)
Two or more races ³	100.0	31.9 (4.54)	20.7 (2.94)	27.1 (3.32)	20.3 (2.99)
Black or African American, white	100.0	29.6 (7.04)	29.4 (5.98)	24.6 (6.52)	*16.4 (5.09)
American Indian or Alaska Native, white	100.0	34.1 (5.40)	20.9 (3.74)	25.6 (4.16)	19.3 (3.92)
Hispanic or Latino origin ⁴ and race					
Hispanic or Latino	100.0	28.8 (1.70)	18.4 (1.50)	24.6 (1.59)	28.1 (1.72)
Mexican or Mexican American	100.0	25.0 (2.23)	18.7 (2.24)	28.4 (2.36)	27.9 (2.34)
Not Hispanic or Latino	100.0	30.0 (0.70)	24.7 (0.60)	26.7 (0.61)	18.6 (0.49)
White, single race	100.0	32.0 (0.81)	25.5 (0.69)	25.8 (0.70)	16.8 (0.54)
Black or African American, single race	100.0	18.9 (1.00)	19.7 (1.13)	31.9 (1.34)	29.5 (1.34)
American Indian or Alaska Native, single race	100.0	31.6 (5.08)	25.2 (4.99)	26.8 (4.71)	*16.4 (5.49)
Education ⁵					
Less than high school graduate	100.0	39.1 (1.47)	22.8 (1.22)	22.3 (1.15)	15.9 (0.95)
GED or equivalent ⁶	100.0	43.9 (2.61)	24.6 (2.10)	12.9 (1.46)	18.6 (2.13)
High school graduate	100.0	27.9 (1.17)	24.4 (1.11)	27.1 (1.12)	20.6 (0.96)
Some college, no degree	100.0	27.7 (1.17)	22.4 (1.08)	28.2 (1.24)	21.7 (1.09)
Associate of arts degree	100.0	27.5 (1.77)	19.1 (1.31)	28.1 (1.68)	25.4 (1.65)
Bachelor of arts, science degree	100.0	18.1 (1.46)	19.5 (1.69)	36.6 (2.13)	25.9 (1.80)
Master's, professional, or doctoral degree	100.0	13.8 (2.23)	23.9 (2.82)	30.4 (3.05)	32.0 (3.10)
Poverty status ⁷					
Less than 100% of the poverty threshold	100.0	36.6 (1.06)	22.0 (0.88)	22.9 (0.99)	18.5 (0.88)
100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold	100.0	33.2 (1.26)	24.3 (1.25)	23.7 (1.03)	18.8 (0.96)
200% to less than 400% of the poverty threshold	100.0	26.6 (1.48)	24.7 (1.22)	28.8 (1.25)	19.9 (0.99)
400% of the poverty threshold or greater	100.0	22.0 (1.25)	26.6 (1.45)	31.4 (1.48)	20.0 (1.14)

Table TOB–4a. Age-adjusted percent distribution (with standard errors) of age of smoking initiation, for all current cigarette smokers aged 18 and over, by sex and selected characteristics: United States, annualized, 2011–2014

Selected characteristic	All current cigarette smokers aged 18 and over	Less than 16 years ¹	16-17 years ¹	18-20 years ¹	21 years and over ¹
Women (continued)					
Marital status					
Married	100.0	29.9 (0.98)	25.0 (0.98)	27.1 (0.93)	18.0 (0.78)
Widowed	100.0	40.5 (4.99)	19.2 (4.05)	18.1 (3.52)	22.1 (3.36)
Divorced or separated	100.0	30.9 (1.24)	20.9 (1.07)	25.5 (1.19)	22.7 (1.09)
Never married	100.0	27.4 (1.48)	23.6 (1.19)	29.3 (1.56)	19.6 (1.31)
Living with a partner	100.0	33.4 (2.12)	24.6 (2.09)	25.3 (1.93)	16.7 (1.61)
Region					
Northeast	100.0	31.1 (1.67)	26.3 (1.26)	25.6 (1.48)	17.1 (1.15)
Midwest	100.0	30.3 (1.44)	25.1 (1.40)	26.5 (1.17)	18.1 (0.93)
South	100.0	28.7 (0.98)	23.1 (0.75)	27.1 (0.92)	21.1 (0.76)
West	100.0	30.6 (1.28)	23.2 (1.22)	26.8 (1.28)	19.4 (1.12)
Place of residence ⁸					
Large MSA	100.0	27.2 (0.90)	25.2 (0.96)	28.0 (0.89)	19.6 (0.72)
Small MSA	100.0	32.0 (1.32)	23.1 (0.91)	26.3 (1.00)	18.6 (0.82)
Not in MSA	100.0	32.2 (1.19)	24.0 (0.92)	24.2 (1.13)	19.6 (1.01)

* Estimates are considered unreliable. Data preceded by an asterisk have a relative standard error (RSE) greater than 30% and less than or equal to 50% and should be used with caution. Data not shown have an RSE greater than 50%.

¹Derived from several source questions: "Have you smoked at least 100 cigarettes in your entire life?", "How old were you when you first started to smoke fairly regularly?", and "Do you now smoke cigarettes every day, some days or not at all?" Answers were recorded in single years and combined for this table.

²Refers to persons who indicated only a single race group, including those of Hispanic or Latino origin.

³Refers to persons who indicated more than one race group, including those of Hispanic or Latino origin. Only two combinations of multiple race groups are shown due to small sample sizes for other combinations.

⁴Refers to persons who are of Hispanic or Latino origin and may be of any race or combination of races. "Not Hispanic or Latino" refers to persons who are not of Hispanic or Latino origin, regardless of race.

⁵Shown only for adults aged 25 and over. Estimates are age adjusted to the projected 2000 U.S. population as the standard population using three age groups: 25–44, 45–64, and 65 and over.

⁶GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.

⁷Based on family income and family size using the U.S. Census Bureau poverty thresholds for 2010, 2011, 2012, and 2013.

⁸MSA is metropolitan statistical area. Large MSAs have a population of 1 million or more; small MSAs have a population of less than 1 million. "Not in MSA" consists of persons not living in a metropolitan statistical area.

NOTES: Estimates are based on household interviews of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. This table is based on data from the Sample Adult file and estimates were weighted using the Sample Adult weight. Unknowns for the columns were not included in the denominators when calculating percentages, but they were included in the "All adults aged 18 and over" column. Percentages may not add to totals due to rounding. "Both sexes," "men," and "women" include persons of other races and unknown race and ethnicity, unknown education, and unknown marital status. Unless otherwise specified, estimates are age-adjusted using the projected 2000 U.S. population as the standard population and using three age groups: 18–44, 45–64, and 65 and over. Estimates for age groups are not age-adjusted. For more information on the data source, methods, and definitions used for this table, refer to Technical Notes for Summary Health Statistics Tables: National Health Interview Survey (available from <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis/SHS/tables.htm>). Suggested citation: Clarke TC, Villarreal MA, Schoenborn CA. Tables of adult health behaviors, tobacco use: National Health Interview Survey, 2011–2014. 2016. Available from: <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis/SHS/tables.htm>.

Table TOB–4b. Frequency distribution (number in thousands) of age of smoking initiation, for current cigarette smokers aged 18 and over, by sex and selected characteristics: United States, annualized, 2011–2014

Selected characteristic	All current cigarette smokers aged 18 and over	Less than 16 years ¹	16-17 years ¹	18-20 years ¹	21 years and over ¹
Both sexes	235,845	12,496	9,728	11,573	7,237
Age					
18–24 years	30,153	1,539	1,773	1,686	235
25–44 years	81,276	4,970	3,909	4,791	2,880
45–64 years	81,945	4,884	3,375	4,140	3,346
65–74 years	24,278	833	511	729	577
75 years and over	18,194	270	159	227	198
Race					
One race ²	232,068	12,181	9,537	11,309	7,061
White	188,610	10,779	8,173	9,178	5,286
Black or African American	28,367	1,049	1,012	1,563	1,341
American Indian or Alaska Native	1,954	144	96	113	67
Asian	12,745	201	238	426	352
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	393	*8	*18	*29	*14
Two or more races ³	3,776	315	190	263	176
Black or African American, white	753	60	35	62	32
American Indian or Alaska Native, white	1,557	168	95	135	91
Hispanic or Latino origin ⁴ and race					
Hispanic or Latino	34,996	1,245	874	1,149	842
Mexican or Mexican American	21,611	690	517	739	478
Not Hispanic or Latino	200,849	11,250	8,854	10,424	6,395
White, single race	156,720	9,650	7,392	8,167	4,538
Black or African American, single race	27,201	1,013	978	1,500	1,311
American Indian or Alaska Native, single race	1,230	109	84	82	47
Education ⁵					
Less than high school graduate	27,998	2,789	1,490	1,446	909
GED or equivalent ⁶	6,018	1,161	597	401	371
High school graduate	46,650	2,923	2,487	2,935	1,944
Some college, no degree	35,745	2,031	1,570	2,157	1,528
Associate of arts degree	23,771	1,144	891	1,252	886
Bachelor of arts, science degree	40,524	631	630	1,243	949
Master's, professional, or doctoral degree	23,877	201	259	422	383
Poverty status ⁷					
Less than 100% of the poverty threshold	32,666	3,366	1,999	2,100	1,352
100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold	45,025	3,358	2,421	2,485	1,685
200% to less than 400% of the poverty threshold	70,656	3,485	3,013	3,900	2,198
400% of the poverty threshold or greater	87,498	2,286	2,295	3,087	2,003

Table TOB–4b. Frequency distribution (number in thousands) of age of smoking initiation, for current cigarette smokers aged 18 and over, by sex and selected characteristics: United States, annualized, 2011–2014

Selected characteristic	All current cigarette smokers aged 18 and over	Less than 16 years ¹	16-17 years ¹	18-20 years ¹	21 years and over ¹
Both sexes (continued)					
Marital status					
Married	124,885	5,076	3,834	4,704	2,949
Widowed	14,165	514	315	418	416
Divorced or separated	26,937	2,330	1,580	1,772	1,542
Never married	52,245	2,683	2,761	3,187	1,509
Living with a partner	17,226	1,873	1,231	1,475	807
Region					
Northeast	41,864	2,030	1,743	1,783	1,086
Midwest	53,927	3,302	2,691	3,198	1,793
South	86,250	4,921	3,742	4,422	2,993
West	53,805	2,243	1,553	2,170	1,364
Place of residence ⁸					
Large MSA	126,734	5,331	4,451	5,728	3,698
Small MSA	72,525	4,256	3,155	3,665	2,160
Not in MSA	36,586	2,909	2,122	2,180	1,379

Table TOB–4b. Frequency distribution (number in thousands) of age of smoking initiation, for current cigarette smokers aged 18 and over, by sex and selected characteristics: United States, annualized, 2011–2014

Selected characteristic	All current cigarette smokers aged 18 and over	Less than 16 years ¹	16-17 years ¹	18-20 years ¹	21 years and over ¹
Men	113,760	6,847	5,184	6,631	3,742
Age					
18–24 years	15,174	781	982	1,117	115
25–44 years	40,089	2,554	2,154	2,868	1,736
45–64 years	39,742	2,773	1,706	2,161	1,654
65–74 years	11,317	574	262	399	196
75 years and over	7,437	165	81	86	42
Race					
One race ²	111,961	6,674	5,086	6,485	3,657
White	92,063	5,849	4,316	5,210	2,647
Black or African American	12,796	600	571	876	706
American Indian or Alaska Native	938	77	43	65	37
Asian	5,969	146	144	312	257
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	195	*	*12	*	*
Two or more races ³	1,799	173	98	146	85
Black or African American, white	304	*27	*15	34	*13
American Indian or Alaska Native, white	757	86	42	76	37
Hispanic or Latino origin ⁴ and race					
Hispanic or Latino	17,639	860	631	819	510
Mexican or Mexican American	11,070	512	386	535	288
Not Hispanic or Latino	96,121	5,987	4,554	5,812	3,233
White, single race	75,967	5,054	3,755	4,483	2,190
Black or African American, single race	12,261	587	543	833	691
American Indian or Alaska Native, single race	549	51	36	43	*26
Education ⁵					
Less than high school graduate	13,693	1,715	869	836	482
GED or equivalent ⁶	3,268	682	316	249	207
High school graduate	22,609	1,689	1,396	1,726	1,015
Some college, no degree	16,464	970	726	1,126	755
Associate of arts degree	10,637	539	440	652	425
Bachelor of arts, science degree	19,491	316	316	665	542
Master's, professional, or doctoral degree	11,883	117	118	240	187
Poverty status ⁷					
Less than 100% of the poverty threshold	13,870	1,674	990	1,087	634
100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold	20,335	1,787	1,264	1,377	832
200% to less than 400% of the poverty threshold	34,669	2,017	1,668	2,326	1,108
400% of the poverty threshold or greater	44,886	1,369	1,262	1,841	1,169

Table TOB–4b. Frequency distribution (number in thousands) of age of smoking initiation, for current cigarette smokers aged 18 and over, by sex and selected characteristics: United States, annualized, 2011–2014

Selected characteristic	All current cigarette smokers aged 18 and over	Less than 16 years ¹	16-17 years ¹	18-20 years ¹	21 years and over ¹
Men (continued)					
Marital status					
Married	63,247	2,930	2,041	2,711	1,653
Widowed	3,037	175	94	122	78
Divorced or separated	11,148	1,182	773	851	692
Never married	27,722	1,506	1,686	2,087	894
Living with a partner	8,467	1,046	587	855	418
Region					
Northeast	20,132	1,039	903	991	558
Midwest	26,300	1,695	1,409	1,821	903
South	40,974	2,808	2,021	2,460	1,505
West	26,354	1,306	851	1,359	777
Place of residence ⁸					
Large MSA	61,372	2,996	2,334	3,419	2,095
Small MSA	34,977	2,281	1,719	2,019	1,042
Not in MSA	17,411	1,570	1,132	1,193	605

Table TOB–4b. Frequency distribution (number in thousands) of age of smoking initiation, for current cigarette smokers aged 18 and over, by sex and selected characteristics: United States, annualized, 2011–2014

Selected characteristic	All current cigarette smokers aged 18 and over	Less than 16 years ¹	16-17 years ¹	18-20 years ¹	21 years and over ¹
Women	122,085	5,648	4,544	4,942	3,494
Age					
18–24 years	14,979	758	791	569	121
25–44 years	41,187	2,415	1,755	1,923	1,144
45–64 years	42,203	2,111	1,670	1,979	1,693
65–74 years	12,960	259	250	330	381
75 years and over	10,757	106	78	141	156
Race					
One race ²	120,107	5,507	4,451	4,825	3,404
White	96,547	4,929	3,857	3,968	2,639
Black or African American	15,570	449	441	687	635
American Indian or Alaska Native	1,015	67	54	48	30
Asian	6,776	55	94	114	94
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	198	*	*6	*	*5
Two or more races ³	1,978	142	92	117	91
Black or African American, white	449	*33	*20	28	*19
American Indian or Alaska Native, white	800	82	54	59	54
Hispanic or Latino origin ⁴ and race					
Hispanic or Latino	17,357	386	244	330	332
Mexican or Mexican American	10,541	178	131	205	190
Not Hispanic or Latino	104,728	5,263	4,300	4,612	3,162
White, single race	80,752	4,595	3,637	3,684	2,347
Black or African American, single race	14,940	426	435	668	620
American Indian or Alaska Native, single race	681	58	48	39	*21
Education ⁵					
Less than high school graduate	14,305	1,073	620	610	426
GED or equivalent ⁶	2,750	480	281	152	164
High school graduate	24,041	1,234	1,091	1,209	929
Some college, no degree	19,281	1,060	845	1,032	773
Associate of arts degree	13,134	605	451	600	461
Bachelor of arts, science degree	21,032	315	314	578	408
Master's, professional, or doctoral degree	11,994	84	141	183	196
Poverty status ⁷					
Less than 100% of the poverty threshold	18,796	1,692	1,009	1,013	718
100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold	24,690	1,571	1,157	1,109	853
200% to less than 400% of the poverty threshold	35,988	1,468	1,345	1,574	1,090
400% of the poverty threshold or greater	42,612	917	1,033	1,246	833

Table TOB–4b. Frequency distribution (number in thousands) of age of smoking initiation, for current cigarette smokers aged 18 and over, by sex and selected characteristics: United States, annualized, 2011–2014

Selected characteristic	All current cigarette smokers aged 18 and over	Less than 16 years ¹	16-17 years ¹	18-20 years ¹	21 years and over ¹
Women (continued)					
Marital status					
Married	61,638	2,146	1,793	1,993	1,296
Widowed	11,128	339	221	296	338
Divorced or separated	15,788	1,148	807	921	850
Never married	24,523	1,177	1,076	1,100	615
Living with a partner	8,759	827	644	620	390
Region					
Northeast	21,732	991	839	792	529
Midwest	27,626	1,607	1,282	1,377	890
South	45,276	2,113	1,721	1,962	1,488
West	27,451	937	702	811	587
Place of residence ⁸					
Large MSA	65,362	2,334	2,117	2,309	1,603
Small MSA	37,548	1,975	1,437	1,646	1,118
Not in MSA	19,175	1,339	990	987	774

* Estimates are considered unreliable. Data preceded by an asterisk have a relative standard error (RSE) greater than 30% and less than or equal to 50% and should be used with caution. Data not shown have an RSE greater than 50%.

¹Derived from several source questions: "Have you smoked at least 100 cigarettes in your entire life?", "How old were you when you first started to smoke fairly regularly?", and "Do you now smoke cigarettes every day, some days or not at all?" Answers were recorded in single years and combined for this table.

²Refers to persons who indicated only a single race group, including those of Hispanic or Latino origin.

³Refers to persons who indicated more than one race group, including those of Hispanic or Latino origin. Only two combinations of multiple race groups are shown due to small sample sizes for other combinations.

⁴Refers to persons who are of Hispanic or Latino origin and may be of any race or combination of races. "Not Hispanic or Latino" refers to persons who are not of Hispanic or Latino origin, regardless of race.

⁵Shown only for adults aged 25 and over.

⁶GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.

⁷Based on family income and family size using the U.S. Census Bureau poverty thresholds for 2010, 2011, 2012, and 2013.

⁸MSA is metropolitan statistical area. Large MSAs have a population of 1 million or more; small MSAs have a population of less than 1 million. "Not in MSA" consists of persons not living in a metropolitan statistical area.

NOTES: Estimates are based on household interviews of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. This table is based on data from the Sample Adult file and estimates were weighted using the Sample Adult weight. Unknowns for the columns were not included in the frequencies but they were included in the "All adults aged 18 and over" column. "Both sexes," "men," and "women" include persons of other races and unknown race and ethnicity, unknown education, and unknown marital status. For more information on the data source, methods, and definitions used for this table, refer to Technical Notes for Summary Health Statistics Tables: National Health Interview Survey (available from <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis/SHS/tables.htm>). Suggested citation: Clarke TC, Villarroel MA, Schoenborn CA. Tables of adult health behaviors, tobacco use: National Health Interview Survey, 2011–2014. 2016. Available from: <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis/SHS/tables.htm>.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Health Interview Survey, 2011–2014.

Table TOB–4c. Crude percent distribution (with standard errors) of age of smoking initiation, for current cigarette smokers aged 18 and over, by sex and selected characteristics: United States, annualized, 2011–2014

Selected characteristic	All current cigarette smokers aged 18 and over	Less than 16 years ¹	16-17 years ¹	18-20 years ¹	21 years and over ¹
Both sexes	100.0	30.5 (0.44)	23.7 (0.35)	28.2 (0.40)	17.6 (0.33)
Age					
18–24 years	100.0	29.4 (1.55)	33.9 (1.54)	32.2 (1.36)	4.5 (0.60)
25–44 years	100.0	30.0 (0.62)	23.6 (0.55)	28.9 (0.62)	17.4 (0.50)
45–64 years	100.0	31.0 (0.67)	21.4 (0.51)	26.3 (0.60)	21.3 (0.58)
65–74 years	100.0	31.4 (1.33)	19.3 (1.18)	27.5 (1.35)	21.8 (1.13)
75 years and over	100.0	31.6 (2.32)	18.6 (1.99)	26.6 (2.15)	23.2 (1.99)
Race					
One race ²	100.0	30.4 (0.44)	23.8 (0.36)	28.2 (0.40)	17.6 (0.33)
White	100.0	32.3 (0.50)	24.5 (0.41)	27.5 (0.44)	15.8 (0.36)
Black or African American	100.0	21.1 (0.78)	20.4 (0.78)	31.5 (0.95)	27.0 (0.91)
American Indian or Alaska Native	100.0	34.2 (3.22)	22.9 (3.10)	26.9 (3.38)	15.9 (2.85)
Asian	100.0	16.5 (1.66)	19.6 (1.83)	35.0 (2.14)	28.9 (2.12)
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	100.0	*11.3 (4.99)	*25.5 (8.99)	*42.2 (13.63)	*21.0 (8.98)
Two or more races ³	100.0	33.3 (2.46)	20.2 (1.97)	27.9 (2.27)	18.6 (1.92)
Black or African American, white	100.0	31.8 (6.00)	18.7 (4.97)	32.7 (5.46)	16.9 (3.92)
American Indian or Alaska Native, white	100.0	34.3 (3.44)	19.5 (2.48)	27.5 (3.25)	18.7 (2.81)
Hispanic or Latino origin ⁴ and race					
Hispanic or Latino	100.0	30.3 (1.09)	21.3 (1.03)	28.0 (1.05)	20.5 (1.01)
Mexican or Mexican American	100.0	28.5 (1.36)	21.3 (1.37)	30.5 (1.37)	19.7 (1.33)
Not Hispanic or Latino	100.0	30.5 (0.47)	24.0 (0.38)	28.2 (0.43)	17.3 (0.35)
White, single race	100.0	32.4 (0.54)	24.9 (0.44)	27.5 (0.48)	15.3 (0.38)
Black or African American, single race	100.0	21.1 (0.79)	20.4 (0.80)	31.2 (0.97)	27.3 (0.93)
American Indian or Alaska Native, single race	100.0	33.8 (3.62)	26.1 (3.70)	25.5 (3.44)	14.6 (3.38)
Education ⁵					
Less than high school graduate	100.0	42.0 (0.99)	22.5 (0.82)	21.8 (0.81)	13.7 (0.65)
GED or equivalent ⁶	100.0	45.9 (1.66)	23.6 (1.53)	15.8 (1.26)	14.7 (1.28)
High school graduate	100.0	28.4 (0.81)	24.2 (0.74)	28.5 (0.74)	18.9 (0.65)
Some college, no degree	100.0	27.9 (0.87)	21.5 (0.77)	29.6 (0.85)	21.0 (0.76)
Associate of arts degree	100.0	27.4 (1.36)	21.4 (1.02)	30.0 (1.17)	21.2 (1.07)
Bachelor of arts, science degree	100.0	18.3 (1.07)	18.3 (1.04)	36.0 (1.34)	27.5 (1.21)
Master's, professional, or doctoral degree	100.0	15.9 (1.70)	20.5 (1.83)	33.4 (2.16)	30.3 (2.14)
Poverty status ⁷					
Less than 100% of the poverty threshold	100.0	38.2 (0.80)	22.7 (0.72)	23.8 (0.74)	15.3 (0.58)
100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold	100.0	33.8 (0.85)	24.3 (0.79)	25.0 (0.75)	16.9 (0.67)
200% to less than 400% of the poverty threshold	100.0	27.7 (0.82)	23.9 (0.72)	31.0 (0.76)	17.4 (0.63)
400% of the poverty threshold or greater	100.0	23.6 (0.85)	23.7 (0.83)	31.9 (0.85)	20.7 (0.76)

Table TOB–4c. Crude percent distribution (with standard errors) of age of smoking initiation, for current cigarette smokers aged 18 and over, by sex and selected characteristics: United States, annualized, 2011–2014

Selected characteristic	All current cigarette smokers aged 18 and over	Less than 16 years ¹	16-17 years ¹	18-20 years ¹	21 years and over ¹
Both sexes (continued)					
Marital status					
Married	100.0	30.6 (0.66)	23.1 (0.55)	28.4 (0.61)	17.8 (0.52)
Widowed	100.0	30.9 (1.60)	19.0 (1.32)	25.1 (1.53)	25.0 (1.50)
Divorced or separated	100.0	32.3 (0.82)	21.9 (0.75)	24.5 (0.73)	21.3 (0.74)
Never married	100.0	26.5 (0.89)	27.2 (0.78)	31.4 (0.82)	14.9 (0.55)
Living with a partner	100.0	34.8 (1.27)	22.9 (1.24)	27.4 (1.16)	15.0 (0.89)
Region					
Northeast	100.0	30.6 (1.12)	26.2 (0.95)	26.8 (0.94)	16.4 (0.88)
Midwest	100.0	30.1 (0.97)	24.5 (0.80)	29.1 (0.91)	16.3 (0.64)
South	100.0	30.6 (0.67)	23.3 (0.50)	27.5 (0.60)	18.6 (0.52)
West	100.0	30.6 (0.87)	21.2 (0.72)	29.6 (0.86)	18.6 (0.73)
Place of residence ⁸					
Large MSA	100.0	27.8 (0.60)	23.2 (0.57)	29.8 (0.63)	19.3 (0.50)
Small MSA	100.0	32.2 (0.88)	23.8 (0.61)	27.7 (0.65)	16.3 (0.53)
Not in MSA	100.0	33.9 (0.87)	24.7 (0.62)	25.4 (0.81)	16.1 (0.79)

Table TOB–4c. Crude percent distribution (with standard errors) of age of smoking initiation, for current cigarette smokers aged 18 and over, by sex and selected characteristics: United States, annualized, 2011–2014

Selected characteristic	All current cigarette smokers aged 18 and over	Less than 16 years ¹	16-17 years ¹	18-20 years ¹	21 years and over ¹
Men	100.0	30.6 (0.54)	23.1 (0.49)	29.6 (0.54)	16.7 (0.42)
Age					
18–24 years	100.0	26.1 (1.71)	32.8 (1.81)	37.3 (1.83)	3.8 (0.65)
25–44 years	100.0	27.4 (0.79)	23.1 (0.78)	30.8 (0.84)	18.6 (0.71)
45–64 years	100.0	33.4 (0.96)	20.6 (0.76)	26.1 (0.86)	19.9 (0.76)
65–74 years	100.0	40.1 (1.82)	18.3 (1.57)	27.9 (1.72)	13.7 (1.35)
75 years and over	100.0	44.1 (3.51)	21.7 (3.05)	22.9 (2.96)	11.2 (2.54)
Race					
One race ²	100.0	30.5 (0.54)	23.2 (0.50)	29.6 (0.55)	16.7 (0.43)
White	100.0	32.5 (0.62)	23.9 (0.57)	28.9 (0.61)	14.7 (0.46)
Black or African American	100.0	21.8 (1.08)	20.7 (1.15)	31.8 (1.38)	25.7 (1.23)
American Indian or Alaska Native	100.0	34.8 (4.82)	19.2 (3.97)	29.4 (5.37)	16.6 (4.18)
Asian	100.0	17.0 (2.00)	16.7 (2.09)	36.3 (2.61)	29.9 (2.57)
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	100.0	*	*27.0 (13.14)	*46.8 (19.29)	*
Two or more races ³	100.0	34.4 (3.46)	19.6 (2.77)	29.1 (3.39)	17.0 (2.36)
Black or African American, white	100.0	30.3 (8.11)	*16.9 (6.47)	37.8 (8.67)	*15.0 (5.17)
American Indian or Alaska Native, white	100.0	35.8 (5.24)	17.3 (3.69)	31.5 (5.28)	15.4 (3.13)
Hispanic or Latino origin ⁴ and race					
Hispanic or Latino	100.0	30.5 (1.37)	22.4 (1.28)	29.1 (1.35)	18.1 (1.19)
Mexican or Mexican American	100.0	29.7 (1.71)	22.4 (1.62)	31.1 (1.71)	16.7 (1.48)
Not Hispanic or Latino	100.0	30.6 (0.59)	23.2 (0.54)	29.7 (0.59)	16.5 (0.46)
White, single race	100.0	32.6 (0.69)	24.3 (0.62)	29.0 (0.66)	14.1 (0.50)
Black or African American, single race	100.0	22.1 (1.12)	20.5 (1.16)	31.4 (1.41)	26.0 (1.26)
American Indian or Alaska Native, single race	100.0	33.1 (5.73)	22.9 (5.18)	27.5 (5.79)	*16.5 (5.42)
Education ⁵					
Less than high school graduate	100.0	43.9 (1.35)	22.3 (1.08)	21.4 (1.13)	12.4 (0.87)
GED or equivalent ⁶	100.0	46.9 (2.25)	21.7 (2.05)	17.2 (1.76)	14.2 (1.87)
High school graduate	100.0	29.0 (1.05)	24.0 (1.05)	29.6 (1.07)	17.4 (0.84)
Some college, no degree	100.0	27.1 (1.19)	20.3 (1.12)	31.5 (1.23)	21.1 (1.11)
Associate of arts degree	100.0	26.2 (2.27)	21.4 (1.60)	31.7 (1.75)	20.7 (1.59)
Bachelor of arts, science degree	100.0	17.2 (1.48)	17.2 (1.38)	36.2 (1.89)	29.5 (1.72)
Master's, professional, or doctoral degree	100.0	17.7 (2.54)	17.8 (2.32)	36.2 (3.23)	28.3 (2.83)
Poverty status ⁷					
Less than 100% of the poverty threshold	100.0	38.2 (1.21)	22.6 (1.08)	24.8 (1.11)	14.5 (0.86)
100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold	100.0	34.0 (1.11)	24.0 (1.02)	26.2 (1.04)	15.8 (0.86)
200% to less than 400% of the poverty threshold	100.0	28.3 (0.95)	23.4 (0.94)	32.7 (1.02)	15.6 (0.76)
400% of the poverty threshold or greater	100.0	24.3 (1.19)	22.4 (1.05)	32.6 (1.16)	20.7 (1.03)

Table TOB–4c. Crude percent distribution (with standard errors) of age of smoking initiation, for current cigarette smokers aged 18 and over, by sex and selected characteristics: United States, annualized, 2011–2014

Selected characteristic	All current cigarette smokers aged 18 and over	Less than 16 years ¹	16-17 years ¹	18-20 years ¹	21 years and over ¹
Men (continued)					
Marital status					
Married	100.0	31.4 (0.91)	21.9 (0.76)	29.0 (0.87)	17.7 (0.71)
Widowed	100.0	37.4 (2.70)	20.0 (2.18)	26.0 (2.95)	16.5 (2.12)
Divorced or separated	100.0	33.8 (1.14)	22.1 (1.06)	24.3 (1.07)	19.8 (1.01)
Never married	100.0	24.4 (1.02)	27.3 (1.00)	33.8 (1.07)	14.5 (0.71)
Living with a partner	100.0	36.0 (1.65)	20.2 (1.31)	29.4 (1.60)	14.4 (1.20)
Region					
Northeast	100.0	29.8 (1.35)	25.9 (1.39)	28.4 (1.47)	16.0 (1.20)
Midwest	100.0	29.1 (1.00)	24.2 (1.00)	31.2 (1.11)	15.5 (0.87)
South	100.0	31.9 (0.89)	23.0 (0.77)	28.0 (0.86)	17.1 (0.66)
West	100.0	30.4 (1.19)	19.8 (0.98)	31.7 (1.13)	18.1 (0.86)
Place of residence ⁸					
Large MSA	100.0	27.6 (0.81)	21.5 (0.77)	31.5 (0.86)	19.3 (0.69)
Small MSA	100.0	32.3 (0.96)	24.3 (0.84)	28.6 (0.87)	14.8 (0.65)
Not in MSA	100.0	34.9 (1.07)	25.2 (0.94)	26.5 (1.04)	13.5 (0.87)

Table TOB–4c. Crude percent distribution (with standard errors) of age of smoking initiation, for current cigarette smokers aged 18 and over, by sex and selected characteristics: United States, annualized, 2011–2014

Selected characteristic	All current cigarette smokers aged 18 and over	Less than 16 years ¹	16-17 years ¹	18-20 years ¹	21 years and over ¹
Women	100.0	30.3 (0.66)	24.4 (0.56)	26.5 (0.56)	18.8 (0.48)
Age					
18–24 years	100.0	33.8 (2.76)	35.3 (2.62)	25.4 (1.89)	5.4 (1.12)
25–44 years	100.0	33.4 (0.95)	24.3 (0.82)	26.6 (0.86)	15.8 (0.64)
45–64 years	100.0	28.3 (0.86)	22.4 (0.77)	26.6 (0.86)	22.7 (0.81)
65–74 years	100.0	21.3 (1.80)	20.5 (1.76)	27.1 (1.96)	31.2 (1.90)
75 years and over	100.0	22.0 (2.92)	16.2 (2.42)	29.4 (3.09)	32.5 (2.98)
Race					
One race ²	100.0	30.3 (0.66)	24.5 (0.57)	26.5 (0.57)	18.7 (0.48)
White	100.0	32.0 (0.76)	25.1 (0.65)	25.8 (0.64)	17.1 (0.53)
Black or African American	100.0	20.3 (1.05)	19.9 (1.10)	31.0 (1.29)	28.7 (1.29)
American Indian or Alaska Native	100.0	33.7 (4.76)	27.0 (5.12)	24.2 (3.48)	15.2 (3.83)
Asian	100.0	15.4 (2.91)	26.4 (3.46)	31.8 (3.56)	26.4 (3.36)
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	100.0	*23.8 (11.33)	*23.0 (9.74)	*34.3 (12.48)	*18.9 (8.03)
Two or more races ³	100.0	32.1 (3.53)	20.8 (2.87)	26.6 (2.96)	20.5 (3.04)
Black or African American, white	100.0	33.0 (9.11)	*20.3 (7.34)	28.0 (7.12)	*18.7 (5.79)
American Indian or Alaska Native, white	100.0	32.9 (4.51)	21.6 (3.72)	23.7 (3.70)	21.9 (4.42)
Hispanic or Latino origin ⁴ and race					
Hispanic or Latino	100.0	29.9 (1.71)	18.9 (1.51)	25.5 (1.65)	25.7 (1.65)
Mexican or Mexican American	100.0	25.3 (2.11)	18.6 (2.20)	29.1 (2.34)	27.0 (2.32)
Not Hispanic or Latino	100.0	30.4 (0.69)	24.8 (0.59)	26.6 (0.59)	18.2 (0.49)
White, single race	100.0	32.2 (0.80)	25.5 (0.68)	25.8 (0.67)	16.5 (0.55)
Black or African American, single race	100.0	19.8 (1.05)	20.3 (1.12)	31.1 (1.30)	28.9 (1.31)
American Indian or Alaska Native, single race	100.0	34.5 (5.21)	29.0 (5.73)	23.7 (3.62)	*12.8 (3.97)
Education ⁵					
Less than high school graduate	100.0	39.3 (1.46)	22.7 (1.19)	22.3 (1.12)	15.6 (0.96)
GED or equivalent ⁶	100.0	44.5 (2.39)	26.1 (2.10)	14.1 (1.61)	15.3 (1.72)
High school graduate	100.0	27.7 (1.11)	24.5 (1.08)	27.1 (1.09)	20.8 (0.95)
Some college, no degree	100.0	28.6 (1.19)	22.8 (1.06)	27.8 (1.23)	20.8 (1.04)
Associate of arts degree	100.0	28.6 (1.65)	21.3 (1.47)	28.3 (1.56)	21.8 (1.37)
Bachelor of arts, science degree	100.0	19.5 (1.51)	19.5 (1.56)	35.8 (2.00)	25.3 (1.73)
Master's, professional, or doctoral degree	100.0	13.9 (2.26)	23.4 (2.80)	30.2 (3.04)	32.4 (3.16)
Poverty status ⁷					
Less than 100% of the poverty threshold	100.0	38.2 (1.05)	22.8 (0.91)	22.9 (0.94)	16.2 (0.77)
100% to less than 200% of the poverty threshold	100.0	33.5 (1.27)	24.7 (1.25)	23.6 (1.03)	18.2 (0.96)
200% to less than 400% of the poverty threshold	100.0	26.8 (1.42)	24.6 (1.17)	28.7 (1.21)	19.9 (1.04)
400% of the poverty threshold or greater	100.0	22.8 (1.18)	25.6 (1.31)	30.9 (1.33)	20.7 (1.13)

Table TOB–4c. Crude percent distribution (with standard errors) of age of smoking initiation, for current cigarette smokers aged 18 and over, by sex and selected characteristics: United States, annualized, 2011–2014

Selected characteristic	All current cigarette smokers aged 18 and over	Less than 16 years ¹	16-17 years ¹	18-20 years ¹	21 years and over ¹
Women (continued)					
Marital status					
Married	100.0	29.7 (0.94)	24.8 (0.88)	27.6 (0.89)	17.9 (0.77)
Widowed	100.0	28.4 (2.01)	18.5 (1.61)	24.8 (1.76)	28.3 (1.90)
Divorced or separated	100.0	30.8 (1.15)	21.7 (0.99)	24.7 (1.05)	22.8 (1.00)
Never married	100.0	29.7 (1.61)	27.1 (1.26)	27.7 (1.22)	15.5 (0.91)
Living with a partner	100.0	33.3 (1.75)	26.0 (2.14)	25.0 (1.70)	15.7 (1.33)
Region					
Northeast	100.0	31.4 (1.65)	26.6 (1.31)	25.1 (1.41)	16.8 (1.17)
Midwest	100.0	31.2 (1.50)	24.9 (1.38)	26.7 (1.11)	17.3 (1.00)
South	100.0	29.0 (0.94)	23.6 (0.74)	26.9 (0.89)	20.4 (0.71)
West	100.0	30.9 (1.27)	23.1 (1.17)	26.7 (1.28)	19.3 (1.10)
Place of residence ⁸					
Large MSA	100.0	27.9 (0.89)	25.3 (0.93)	27.6 (0.85)	19.2 (0.71)
Small MSA	100.0	32.0 (1.32)	23.3 (0.88)	26.7 (0.95)	18.1 (0.84)
Not in MSA	100.0	32.7 (1.21)	24.2 (0.96)	24.1 (1.13)	18.9 (1.05)

* Estimates are considered unreliable. Data preceded by an asterisk have a relative standard error (RSE) greater than 30% and less than or equal to 50% and should be used with caution. Data not shown have an RSE greater than 50%.

¹Derived from several source questions: "Have you smoked at least 100 cigarettes in your entire life?", "How old were you when you first started to smoke fairly regularly?", and "Do you now smoke cigarettes every day, some days or not at all?" Answers were recorded in single years and combined for this table.

²Refers to persons who indicated only a single race group, including those of Hispanic or Latino origin.

³Refers to persons who indicated more than one race group, including those of Hispanic or Latino origin. Only two combinations of multiple race groups are shown due to small sample sizes for other combinations.

⁴Refers to persons who are of Hispanic or Latino origin and may be of any race or combination of races. "Not Hispanic or Latino" refers to persons who are not of Hispanic or Latino origin, regardless of race.

⁵Shown only for adults aged 25 and over.

⁶GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.

⁷Based on family income and family size using the U.S. Census Bureau poverty thresholds for 2010, 2011, 2012, and 2013.

⁸MSA is metropolitan statistical area. Large MSAs have a population of 1 million or more; small MSAs have a population of less than 1 million. "Not in MSA" consists of persons not living in a metropolitan statistical area.

NOTES: Estimates are based on household interviews of a sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. This table is based on data from the Sample Adult file and estimates were weighted using the Sample Adult weight. Unknowns for the columns were not included in the frequencies but they were included in the "All adults aged 18 and over" column. "Both sexes," "men," and "women" include persons of other races and unknown race and ethnicity, unknown education, and unknown marital status. For more information on the data source, methods, and definitions used for this table, refer to Technical Notes for Summary Health Statistics Tables: National Health Interview Survey (available from <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis/SHS/tables.htm>). Suggested citation: Clarke TC, Villarroel MA, Schoenborn CA. Tables of adult health behaviors, tobacco use: National Health Interview Survey, 2011–2014. 2016. Available from: <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis/SHS/tables.htm>.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Health Interview Survey, 2011–2014.