Based on responses to a question that asked, “Have you smoked at least 100 cigarettes in your entire life?”. Respondents answering “yes” were then asked, “Do you now smoke cigarettes every day, some days, or not at all?”. Current smokers have smoked at least 100 cigarettes in their lifetime and currently smoke every day or some days. Industry consists of eight sectors emphasized in the National Occupational Research Agenda (http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/nora/sector.html): agriculture/forestry/fishing; mining; construction; manufacturing; transportation/warehousing/utilities; trade; services; and healthcare/social assistance. Currently employed respondents were asked about the industry of their current job or business. Error bars represent 95% confidence intervals. Adapted from analysis by Debbie Blackwell, Ph.D., National Center for Health Statistics, in: Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) April 25, 2014 / 63(16);367-367.

Estimates are based on household interviews of a sample of the U.S. civilian, noninstitutionalized population. Adults who were not currently employed at the time of interview and unknowns with respect to smoking and industry were not included in the denominators when calculating percentages.


Tobacco use is the single most preventable cause of disease, disability, and death in the United States. Each year, an estimated 443,000 people die prematurely from smoking or exposure to secondhand smoke, and another 8.6 million live with a serious illness caused by smoking. Despite these facts, approximately 46.6 million U.S. adults smoke cigarettes. Smokeless tobacco, cigars, and pipes also have deadly consequences, including lung, larynx, esophageal, and oral cancers.

Tobacco smoke and toxic worksite hazards pose even higher health risks, together, than they do separately. A recent study showed that:

- Workers who work with asbestos are 4x more likely to die from lung cancer than those who do not.
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- Workers who work with asbestos and smoke are 30x more likely to die from lung cancer.

Worksite smoking cessation interventions are more than twice as effective when integrated with occupational safety and health. Among blue-collar hourly workers who received an integrated occupational safety and health/promotion program...

smoking quit rates more than doubled to compared to those who only received health promotion

11.8%  5.9%

THE BURDEN OF TOBACCO USE

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THE PERCENTAGE OF CURRENTLY EMPLOYED ADULTS WHO SMOKE BY INDUSTRY SECTOR

National Health Interview Survey, United States, 2008-2012

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