## VITAL and FIBALTEI STATISTICS DATA FROM THE NATIONAL HEALTH SURVEY

# Changes in Cigarette Smoking Habits Between 1955 and 1966 

Comparative data on the distribution of the population 18 years of age and over, by cigarette smoking status in 1955 and 1966. Based on information collected in supplements to the Current Population Survey in February 1955 and June 1966.

[^0]

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IN THIS REPORT comparative data are presented on the cigarette smoking status of persons 18 years and older in the civilian, noninstitutional population for the years 1955 and 1966. Data basic to the estimates for both years were collected in supplements to the Current Population Survey conducted by the Bureau of the Census.

Changes in smoking habits thatoccurred during the interval 1955 through 1966 are measured in terms of persons who have ever smoked (current smokers and former smokers) and those who have never smoked. Further comparisons are made by maximum cigarette smoking rate attained, present consumption rates among current smokers, and age at which persons started smoking regularly.

Estimates shown for the 2 years indicate that during the interval there was a decrease among men in the proportion of current cirarette smokers with the decline primarily concentrated among those under 55 years of age. The proportion of current smokers among females increased during the interval, with the percentage of change increasing appreciably with advancing age.

## SYMBOLS



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Quantity more than 0 but less than $0.05-\ldots 0$
Figure does not meet standards of


# CHANGES IN CIGARETTE SMOKING HABITS BETWEEN 1955 AND 1966 

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## INTRODUCTION

Under the sponsorship of the National Cancer Institute, the U.S. Bureau of the Census collected data on smoking histories of the people in the United States as a supplement to the Current Population Survey (CPS) for February 1955. This survey, which covered the civilian, noninstitutional population 18 years of age and over residing in the United States, provided estimates of smoking characteristics of persons by sex, age, and a number of other demographic characteristics. ${ }^{1}$ In addition to information on current smoking status and consumption rates, data were also obtained on the approximate age at which persons started smoking.

Early in 1966, the Division of Health Interview Statistics contracted with the Bureau of the Census to run a similar study as a supplement to the Current Population Survey for June 1966. Questions on smoking habits were phrased similaxly to those employed in the 1955 study in order to make the data as comparable as possible (appendix III). The two questionnaires were not identical because the primary purpose of the 1955 study was to obtain data on lifetime smoking history, while that of the 1966 survey was to investigate changes in current smoking habits.

[^1]While the 1966 study was undertaken primarily as the initial phase of a planned series of annual supplements which will produce periodic data on changes in smoking habits, it also provided an opportunity to investigate the differences in cigarette smoking habits in 1955 and 1966 with the same method of data collection used in the two surveys.

Comparative data from the two surveys show that the proportion of current cigarette smokers ${ }^{2}$ among males 18 years and over decreased from 56.9 percent in 1955 to 50.7 percent in 1966, and increased during this period among women at this age level from 28.4 percent to 32.9 percent (table A). All of these estimates include an allocation of persons in the samples for whom information on smoking habits was unknown. Totals for the group "unknown smoking status" are shown in tables 1 and 2, which also include data on changes in smoking characteristics by age for the period 1955-66. It is apparent from table 2 that the decrease in the percentage of cigarette smokers occurred among males under 55 years of age. It should also be emphasized that the decrease in the proportion of male smokers occurred for the most part among those smoking less than 10 cigarettes per day, while increases in the proportion of female smokers were noted in each of the age groups shown, and among those smoking 10 or more cigarettes per day.

[^2]Table A. Percent distribution of persons 18 years and over, by cigarette smoking status according to sex: United States, 1955 and 1966 surveys

| Cigarette smoking status | Male |  | Female |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1955 | 1966 | 1955 | 1966 |
|  | Percent distribution |  |  |  |
|  | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
|  | 43.1 | 49.3 | 71.6 | 67.1 |
|  | 32.1 | 31.1 | 67.6 | 60.3 |
| Formerly smoked | 11.1 | 18.2 | 4.0 | 6.8 |
|  | 56.9 | 50.7 | 28.4 | 32.9 |

[^3]
## SOURCE AND QUALIFICATIONS OF DATA

The population from which the sample was selected for the two studies was that of the United States as of February 1955 and June 1966. Persons in the following categories were excluded from the sample: members of the Armed Forces, and inmates of penal and mental institutions and homes for the aged, the infirm, and the needy.

For the 1955 study, data were collected from approximately 21,000 households, which contained about 45,000 persons 18 years of age or over at the time of this survey, in 230 sample areas comprising 453 counties and independent cities. Of the 21,000 households, approximately 4.4 percent were "noninterview," that is, households for which no information was recorded because no interview could be obtained. In order to account for the experience of persons in noninterviewed households, the weights assigned to other households of similar characteristics in the sample areas were increased. In addition to the general nonresponse, tobacco smoking information was not reported for about 4.5 percent of the persons; these persons were not allocated to the smoking
status categories in the original report issued on this survey (footnote 1, p. 1).

In 1966, data were collected from approximately 35,000 households, which contained about 69,000 persons 18 years of age and over at the time of the survey, in 357 sample areas comprising 701 counties and independent cities. In about 4.5 percent of the sample households, interviews were not obtained because the occupants were not found at home after repeated calls, or were unavailable for other reasons. Adjustment of the data to include the experience of persons in noninterviewed households was accomplished as in 1955, by increasing the weights assigned to interviewed households with similar characteristics.

The estimating procedure used in both the 1955 and 1966 surveys involved, as a final step, the inflation of the weighted sample results to agree with independent estimates of the civilian, noninstitutional population of the United States by age, sex, and race. For the 1955 survey, these independent estimates were based on statistics from the 1950 census of population and on statistics of births, deaths, and net immigration; for the 1966 survey, the 1960 census of population was substituted for the 1950 enumeration.

## Questionnaire and Interview

In 1955, a form, separate from the routine schedule of the Current Population Survey, was used by the interviewer for recording smoking histories for all household members 18 years and over (appendix III). The primary purpose of the study was to classify people according to smoking habits rather than to make estimates of the amount of tobacco consumed.

The instructions emphasized that, when possible, information on smoking histories was to be obtained directly from the person himself. When the individual was not at home, the plan called for leaving a form to be completed by the respondent with followup by the interviewer to secure uncompleted forms. In practice, these instructions could not be adhered to strictly because some informants volunteered the information for other members of the family, and in these situations there was a risk of receiving no data at all if the informant's response was not accepted.

The instructions for the 1966 survey emphasized that, where possible, information on smoking habits was to be obtained directly from the person himself. No provision, however, was made for leaving a form to be completed by the respondent with a followup by the interviewer. As a result, the self-response rate for men declined from 58 percent in 1955 to 35 percent in 1966. For women, fewer of whom were currently employed and absent from home, the self-response rate declined only from 83 percent to 75 percent.

## Self-Respondents

Because of the decline in the self-response rate in 1966, the smoking history data were analyzed by self-responses and proxy-responses. From estimates in table $B$ it can be seen that in both surveys the proportion of self-responses increased for men with advancing age, but remained rather stable among all women 25 years and older. Among men, the self-response rate was consistently lower in all age groups in 1966 than in comparable groups in 1955 (table B). The self-response rate for males 65 and over was much higher than in all other age groups. For women, the self-response rates were somewhat

Table B. Percent of persons who were self-respondents, by sex and age at the time of survey: United States, 1955 and 1966 surveys

| Age at time of survey | Male |  | Female |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1955 | 1966 | 1955 | 1966 |
| All ages, 18+ years- | Percent |  |  |  |
|  | 57.9 | 34.9 | 83.0 | 75.1 |
| 18-24 years---.- | 43.3 | 26.2 | 71.4 | 58.5 |
| 25-34 years | 53.5 | 31.8 | 86.8 | 82.1 |
| 35-44 years | 56.4 | 28.9 | 85.8 | 79.1 |
| 45-54 years | 58.0 | 31.5 | 85.4 | 76.3 |
| 55-64 years------ | 64.0 | 40.2 | 84.8 | 79.0 |
| 65+ years------- | 73.6 | 56.8 | 79.2 | 74.5 |

lower in 1966 for each age group, but the general level of self-responses was much higher than among men in both surveys.

There is evidence that self- and proxy-response differences result in some reporting bias (table C). For example, both males and females are more likely to be classified as former smokers (had smoked at least 100 cigarettes during lifetime, but not smoking at the time of the survey) if they report for themselves than if their status is reported by another family member (proxy-respondent). On the other hand, proxy-respondents may report other family members as having never smoked (had never smoked as many as 100 cigarettes) because they are not aware of a previous smoking history. Selfrespondents who report average number of cigarettes smoked daily report slightly higher amounts than do proxy-respondents. This bias will result in some underreporting of smoking rates for males in particular since in the 1966 survey, data on almost two-thirds of all males who had ever smoked were obtained through proxy-responses.

The estimates in table 5 indicate that in the 1966 survey for males who "never smoked," the absolute percent differences between proxy- and self-respondents were greatest among persons
under 25 years and those 65 years and over. For females, the differences between the percentages who had never smoked as reported by selfrespondents and proxy-respondents became increasingly smaller with advancing age.

## Response Error

There was no built-in scheme for validation of responses in either the 1955 or 1966 survey plan, and no direct measures of the extent of the response errors can be made.

One source of bias associated with both surveys was best described in the 1955 study on smoking patterns (footnote $1, \mathrm{p} .1$ ) as follows: "It should be stressed that the questions were designed to classify people and not to estimate the amount of tobacco consumed. For the latter purpose the proper approach would have been to include questions on recent purchases or on the number of units consumed in a given day. Couching smoking questions in terms of 'on the average' probably exerts a downward bias. The respondent may be encouraged to think of some smoking pattern which he rarely falls below and to neglect amounts in excess of this figure in his response. Since the primary objective of this survey was to classify groups of people for purposes of comparison, such biases would not be important so long as they were not large nor selective in character."

## SMOKING HABITS

## Measures of Smoking Habits

The smoking characteristics of all persons aged 18 years and over have been examined in terms of three basic measures: (1) current smoking habits, (2) number of cigarettes smoked per day presently, and (3) number of cigarettes smoked per day when smoking the heaviest (maximum amount). Thus, the population was divided into groups of persons who had never smoked cigarettes and those who have ever smoked. The latter group was subdivided into present and former smokers. The present smokers were subdivided into regular and occasional smokers. The regular smokers were those who reported smoking one or more cigarettes a day, while oc-
casional smokers were those who did not report smoking regularly (not every day).

The smoking amounts were obtained interms of the estimated number of cigarettes smoked. These data were divided into four categories ( $1-9,10-20,20-40$, and 41 and over). These categories were established in order to conform with normal cigarette dispensing and packaging practices, and ranged from a half a pack or less to more than two packs a day. This was also suggested by a definite concentration on round numbers in reporting the number of cigarettes smoked daily. For example, in the class $10-20$ cigarettes most persons reported 20 cigarettes, for 21-40 cigarettes the modal units were 30 and 40 , and for 41 cigarettes and over, units of 50 and 60 . These peaks undoubtedly arose from the practice of selling cigarettes in packs of 20 , partly from individual programming of daily consumption in units of half packs, and partly due to ease of reporting among respondents.

The proportion of persons of unknown smoking status, shown in table 2, was appreciably higher in the 1955 survey than in that of 1966. This difference was due to the data collection practice in 1955 of leaving a questionnaire which was to be completed by any adult not home at the time of interview. Failure to return the form increased the nonresponse rate and added to the proportion of persons of unknown smoking status. It is possible to consider persons of unknown smoking status as persons who have never smoked or as persons who are currently smoking, and thus vary the amount of change that could have occurred in smoking habits from 1955 to 1966 . However, the most reasonable method of distributing this unknown group to the several smoking status categories is in accordance with the distribution of those of known status. This procedure produces the estimates shown in table A.

While the data give a measure of current and heaviest cigarette smoking amounts, there is no measure of how long a respondent was smoking at a given rate, or how many cigarettes a day he was smoking when he started smoking. For example, a 25 -year-old man who reported the heaviest amount as one pack a day could have smoked at that rate from the time he was 18 years of age or for only 1 year.

## Current Smoking Habits

Of the $56,768,000$ males and $64,310,000$ females 18 years of age and over in the civilian, noninstitutional population of the United States as of June 1966, an estimated 27,998,000 males and $20,670,000$ females, or 49.3 and 32.1 percent respectively, were current smokers (tables 1 and 2). Without proration of persons of unknown smoking status, these figures are comparable to 53.8 percent of the males and 27.4 percent of the females who were current smokers at the time of the 1955 survey. It should be pointed out, however, that despite the percentage decrease among male smokers, the number of men smoking cigarettes in 1966 exceeds the estimate for 1955 by about $1^{1 / 3}$ million. Among women the increase in the number of cigarette smokers during this time interval amounted to approximately $5 \not / 2$ million (table 1). During the same interval the male population 18 years and older increased by $7,187,000$, while the female population increased 9,214,000.

Among males the percentage of nonsmokers of cigarettes in the age group 18 years and over increased from 40.8 percent in 1955 to 47.9 percent in 1966 (fig. 1). This absolute increase of 7.1 percentage points among male nonsmokers between 1955 and 1966 is mainly attributable to a substantial increase in the percentage of former smokers. This increase may, however, be an underestimate of the actual proportion of men who have become nonsmokers, because of the high proportion of proxy respondents for males who tend to erroneously report former smokers as persons who have never smoked. Included in the 47.9 percent of male nonsmokers in 1966, 17.7 percent previously smoked regularly or occasionally in contrast to only 10.5 percent in 1955 (table 2) when the proportion of male selfrespondents was considerably greater.

Among women 18 years and older, the percentage of current cigarette smokers (regular and occasional) increased from 27.4 percent in 1955 to 32.1 percent in 1966 (fig. 1). With the percentage of females who had never smoked generally lower in 1966 than in 1955, it would seem that the increase of 4.7 percentage points in the proportion of current cigarette smokers is due for the most part to the increased proportion of


Figure 1. Percent distribution of the population 18 years and over, by cigarette smoking status according to sex.
women who had started smoking since the 1955 survey (table 2).

The proportion of occasional smokers among current smokers decreased from 4.0 percent in 1955 to 0.3 percent in 1966 among men, and from 3.8 percent in 1955 to 0.3 percent in 1966 among women (table 2). Differences in interviewing techniques and interviewing instructions between the 2 years may be partly responsible for the noted decline. On the 1955 questionnaire there was a check box labeled "smoke once in a while, not every day," which was used by the interviewer to denote persons who smoked occasionally. In the administration of the 1966 questionnaire, the interviewer was required to determine if the person smoked on the average less than one cigarette per day before classifying him as an occasional smoker. The greater latitude in classification permissible in the 1955 survey probably accounts for the higher proportion of persons classified as occasional smokers in that survey. The decline in occasional smokers between 1955 and $1966^{\circ}$ was apparently not biased by proxy-
response or self-response, since the decline was quite similar in the two groups (table C).

The estimates shown in table $D$ and presented graphically in figure 2 indicate that the decline among current male smokers between 1955 and 1966 was primarily concentrated among those under 55 years of age, while the percent increase among the female smokers increased appreciably with advancing age. If it were possible to consider persons in the 10 -year-age intervals at the time of the 1955 survey as co-
horts representative of those who would have advanced to the succeeding 10 -year interval in the 1966 survey, the decrease in the proportion of male smokers would be even more conspicuous. Because the death rate among cigarette smokers is higher than that for the general population, ${ }^{3}$ an analysis of cohorts within two
${ }^{3}$ Hammond, E. C.: Smoking in relation to mortality and morbidity. J. Nat. Cancer Inst. 32(5):1161-1188, May 1964.

Table C. Percent distribution of persons 18 years and over, ${ }^{1}$ by cigarette smoking status according to sex and type of respondent: United States, 1955 and 1966 surveys

| Cigarette smoking status | Male |  |  |  | Female |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1955 |  | 1966 |  | 1955 |  | 1966 |  |
|  | Se1f | Proxy | Self | Proxy | Self | Proxy | Self | Proxy |
| All persons, $18+$ years--NonsmokersTotal | Percent distribution |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 100.0 | 100.0 | ${ }^{2} 100.0$ | ${ }^{2} 100.0$ | 100.0 | 100.0 | ${ }^{2} 100.0$ | ${ }^{2} 100.0$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 43.0 | 43.3 | 49.1 | 48.7 | 70.3 | 78.0 | 65.7 | 70.2 |
| Never smoked | 30.0 | 34.8 | 27.6 | 32.5 | 65.8 | 76.2 | 58.3 | 65.6 |
| Previously smoked | 13.0 | 8.5 | 21.5 | 16.1 | 4.5 | 1.8 | 7.5 | 4.6 |
| Occasionally | 1.5 | 0.9 | 1.0 | 0.5 | 0.9 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.2 |
| Regularly | 11.5 | 7.6 | 20.5 | 15.6 | 3.5 | 1.2 | 7.0 | 4.4 |
| Smokers |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total | 57.0 | 56.8 | ${ }^{3} 50.4$ | ${ }^{3} 50.3$ | 29.7 | 22.0 | 333.9 | ${ }^{3} 28.9$ |
| Occasionally----.-.--------- | 4.2 | 4.4 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 4.1 | 3.0 | 0.3 | 0.3 |
| Never regularly---------- | 3.1 | 3.5 | --- | --- | 3.5 | 2.8 | --- | --- |
| Previously regularly----- | 1.2 | 0.8 | 5 | , | 0.6 | 0.2 | , |  |
| Regularly -----.-.-------- | 52.8 | 52.4 | 49.5 | 46.6 | 25.6 | 19.0 | 33.1 | 26.7 |
| Under 10 cigarettes daily- | 8.5 | 9.7 | 5.6 | 4.8 | 9.1 | 7.4 | 5.7 | 5.7 |
| 10-20 cigarettes daily--- | 29.8 | 30.7 | 28.9 | 30.2 | 14.0 | 9.6 | 22.1 | 17.4 |
| 21-40 cigarettes daily-- <br> 41+ cigarettes daily--... | 13.2 1.2 | 11.1 0.9 | 13.1 1.8 | 10.8 0.9 | 2.4 0.1 | 1.7 | 5.0 0.3 | 3.4 0.2 |

[^4]Table D. Percent of persons currently smoking cigarettes (regularly or occasionally), by sex and age at the time of survey: United States, 1955 and 1966 surveys

| Age at time of survey | Male |  |  | Female |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1955 | 1966 | Change | 1955 | 1966 | Change |
|  | Percent |  |  |  |  |  |
| All ages, 18 years and over | 53.8 | 49.3 | -8.4 | 27.4 | 32.1 | +17.2 |
| 18-24 years | 53.0 | 48.3 | -8.9 | 33.3 | 34.7 | +4.2 |
| 25-34 years- | 63.6 | 58.9 | -7.4 | 39.2 | 43.2 | +10.2 |
| 35-44 years | 62.1 | 57.0 | -8.2 | 35.4 | 41.1 | $+16.1$ |
| 45-54 years | 58.0 | 53.1 | -8.4 | 25.7 | 37.3 | +45.1 |
| 55-64 years | 45.8 | 46.2 | +0.9 | 13.4 | 23.0 | +71.6 |
| 65 years and ove | 25.8 | 24.6 | -4.7 | 4.7 | 8.1 | $+72.3$ |



Figure 2. Percent of population currently smoking cigarettes regularly or occasionally, by age at time of survey and sex.
independent studies is not a valid procedure, since it is not possible to take into account the decrease in the number of smokers during a $10-$ year interval that is attributable to mortality.

## Cigarette Consumption Rates

There was no appreciable change in the proportion of men who currently smoked 21 or more cigarettes a day, 12.7 percent in 1955 and 12.5 in 1966 (table E). There was an increase in the percentage of women who smoked 21 or more cigarettes per day from 2.3 percent in 1955 to 4.9 percent in 1966. This meant that the proportion of women who were smoking more than a pack a day in 1966 was approximately double that for 1955. Among women the age group with the largest increase was $25-44$ years.

Among the male, current, regular smokers included in table 2, the proportion of those smoking from 1-9 cigarettes per day declined between 1955 and 1966. The concentration of the decline among those who smoked less than half a pack of cigarettes a day indicates that the increase in the proportion of males who quit smoking (former smokers) between 1955 and 1966 might be attributed to light and occasional smokers (table 2). Among women, however, there was an actual increase in the number of those who smoked, but a substantial decline among those who smoked less than half a pack a day. The increase in the amount smoked between 1955 and 1966 among women was concentrated among those who smoked from 10 to 20 and 21 to 40 cigarettes per day. It is possible that some of the women who smoked less than 10 cigarettes per day in 1955 may have increased their cigarette consumption by 1966. However, there is no clear evidence in the data that such increases in the percent of female smokers were related to the increased switching to heavier smoking, since an increase in the number of current nonsmokers who previously had been regular smokers also took place.

It would seem that some women are joining the ranks of former smokers, while an even larger number are joining the smoking group. The females who are starting to smoke heavily are younger, while those no longer smoking cigarettes are older persons. This point is emphasized by the data in table 2 , which indicate that in 1966 the proportion of female nonsmokers who were previously regular smokers was higher

Table E. Percent of persons smoking 21 or more cigarettes per day, by sex and age at the time of survey: United States, 1955 and 1966 surveys

| Age at time of survey | Male |  | Fémale |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1955 | 1966 | 1955 | 1966 |
| All ages, 18+ years- | Percent |  |  |  |
|  | 12.7 | 12.5 | 2.3 | 4.9 |
| 18-24 years------ | 7.7 | 6.6 | 1.9 | 3.5 |
| 25-34 years------ | 13.0 | 15.4 | 3.5 | 7.4 |
| 35-44 years-o---- | 17.7 | 18.0 | 3.0 | 7.4 |
| 45-54 years------ | 15.7 | 15.8 | 2.8 | 6.2 |
| 55-64 years------ | 10.1 | 12.5 | 1.1 | 2.8 |
| 65+ years-------- | 3.4 | 3.2 | * | 0.6 |

in each single age group than were similar proportions in 1955. And, in general, this difference became greater with advancing age.

## Current Status of Those Who Ever Smoked

Another dimension of analysis which more clearly identifies changes in the smoking population is added when data are analyzed in terms of those who ever smoked cigarettes regularly. In this classification shown in tables 6 and 7, persons are classified as former regular smokers and current regular smokers. The-former group is subdivided into "nonsmokers now" and "occasional smokers now." The latter group is shown by current rate of smoking.

Estimates shown in table 7 indicate that there is an increase of 10.2 percentage points in the proportion of male nonsmokers who were former regular smokers, 15.5 percent in 1955 and 25.7 percent in 1966. Among females the percentage of nonsmokers among those who have ever smoked regularly increased from 11.1 percent in 1955 to 16.4 percent in 1966. At the time of the 1955 survey, 82.9 percent of the men who had ever smoked cigarettes regularly were smoking at the time of the survey; a comparable figure for 1906 was 74.0 percent, an absolute decrease of 8.9 percentage points (tables 7 and
F). Among females the percent of current smokers among those who had ever smoked regularly decreased from 87.0 percent in the 1955 survey to 83.1 percent in 1966. In general, the percentage decrease for boch men and women became greater with advancing age, reaching a maximum of 24.1 percent for males 65 years and older (table F).

The consistent decrease in the percent of regular smokers between 1955 and 1966 in each of the current smoking categories, 1-9, 10-20, and 21-40 cigarettes per day, for males, with no appreciable change in the proportion smoking more than two packs per day, accounts for the marked increase in the proportion of former regular smokers (table 7). Among females who have ever smoked, where the number of cigarettes smoked per day has increased between the two surveys, there is added evidence that the population has moved in two directions, some have quit smoking or have cut down, while others have increased their average daily rate of cigarette consumption.

## HISTORY OF CIGARETTE SMOKING

## Age at Which Started Smoking

Since much of the information obtained in the two surveys is based on respondent recall, most of the estimates shown are subject to bias intro-
duced by faulty memory of past events. Undoubtedly, questions regarding the age at which persons started smoking placed severe demands on memory even when such questions were directed at persons providing information only for themselves. When questions of this kind were directed to a proxy-respondent, the memory bias was compounded by the lack of information on the part of the proxy-respondent. Because of the comparatively low percentage of self-respondents among males in the 1966 survey (table B), comparative data from the two surveys regarding age at the time smoking was started have not been presented for males.

Another shortcoming of the smoking data for young males in both surveys is the exclusion of persons in the military service. Because of the high proportion of males $18-24$ years of age in the Armed Forces in 1966, in contrast to 1955, the characteristics of the remaining civilian population in this age group may be quite different from those of youths of a comparable age in the 1955 survey.

However, it is felt that the material collected on age when smoking started for females, for whom the proxy-response rate is quite low, is representative of the female population in both surveys. Because of basic differences in the patterns of smoking history among males and females it is not reasonable to assume that the

Table F. Percent of current cigarette smokers among persons who have ever smoked cigarettes regularly, by sex and age at the time of survey: United States, 1955 and 1966 surveys

| Age at time of survey | Male |  |  | Female |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1955 | 1966 | Decrease in 1966 | 1955 | 1966 | Decrease <br> in 1966 |
|  | Percent |  |  |  |  |  |
| All ages, 18+ years | 82.9 | 74.0 | -10.7 | 87.0 | 83.1 | -4.5 |
| 18-24 years | 93.6 | 90.8 | -3.0 | 89.7 | 88.0 | -1.9 |
| 25-34 years- | 87.5 | 81.8 | -6.5 | 86.3 | 85.7 | -0.7 |
| 35-44 years- | 84.7 82.4 | 75.9 | -10.4 | 87.7 | 83.3 82.8 | -5.0 |
| 55-64 years | 74.0 | 66.8 | -12.3 | 88 | 82.8 76.5 | -5.4 |
| $65+$ years-- | 63.8 | 48.4 | -24.1 | 73.7 | 68.5 | -7.1 |

cumulative data for females shown in figure 3 are characteristic of males. It is known that the curves for male smokers were at a higher level than those for females, because the rate of those who have ever smoked is consistently higher among males than among females.

In the comparison of females in the two surveys by the age at which they started smoking, it is assumed that the mortality rates among cigarette smokers during the years prior to the sur-
veys were similar enough to produce comparable survivor populations. Because the populations under consideration in this instance consist only of persons who have ever smoked, the comparative rates would not be influenced by the mortality differentials between smokers and nonsmokers.

The cumulative percentage estimates of females becoming regular smokers prior to specific ages shown in table 8 have been summarized


Figure 3. Cumulative percentage of females becoming regular cigarette smokers prior to age specified, by age at time of survey. (Cumulative percentages are shown in table 8.)
for comparative purposes in figure 3. Age at which the person started smoking has been carried only through 35 years since accretions to the smoking population are rather small thereafter. In the two youngest age groups, those under 35 years, the cumulative curves have been adjusted by the usual actuarial methods to take account of the population not exposed to risk during the entire age span covered.

Between 1955 and 1966 there was a shift to an earlier age at which women start to smoke; this shift has accompanied the rising trend in the proportion of women smoking regularly (fig. 3). The marked change in the age at which women start to smoke cigarettes is apparent from a. comparison of the data in the two surveys. From table 8 it is apparent that the percent of women 18-24 years of age in 1966 whohad started smoking by age 15 ( 8.4 percent) was four times that for the comparable age-group in 1955 ( 2.1 percent). In 1966, 29.9 percent of the women who were $18-24$ years of age at the time of the interview, had started to smoke by the age of 18 , in contrast to 15.9 percent of those who were 18-24 years of age in 1955. This represents an increase of 14.0 percentage points, with the percent in 1966 approximately twice that in 1955.

Among women 35 years and over, an age interval in which all of those included would have had an opportunity to start smoking at age 35 or younger, the percent increase for those who had started smoking by age 35 between 1955 and 1966 became greater with advancing age. For those 65 years and older at the time of the surveys, 1.7 percent had started smoking by age 35 in the 1955 survey while a comparable percentage in the 1966 survey was 6.5 percent, approximating a fourfold increase (table 8 and fig. 3).

## Continuance of Maximum Rate

In tables 9 and 10 the current cigarette smoking habits of persons who have ever smoked regularly are shown according to the maximum rate of cigarette consumption attained. From table 11, in which this material has been summarized, it is apparent from both surveys that women who have ever smoked a maximum of $21-40$ or 41 and over cigarettes per day have a greater tendency to "cut down" than do those whose maximum rate is
less than a pack per day. The greater opportunity, in terms of number of cigarettes, for the former group to "cut down" withour giving up cigarettes altogether may account for chis tendency. In the 1955 survey this same pattern was noted for men. However, the data collected in the 1966 survey indicate that a high percentage of men who have smoked a maximum of less than half of a pack of cigarettes per day have quit smoking, since only 48.5 percent were continuing to smoke at their maximum rate at the time of the survey (table 11). This increase in the proportion of men who have quit smoking is in agreement with the increase between 1955 and 1966 of the nonsmokers among former regular cigarette smokers shown in table 2. While this increase in nonsmokers is characteristic of each age group, it is particularly evident among men 45 years and older.

The current cigarette smoking status at the time of the 1966 survey of persons according to their maximum rate is described more fully in table $G$. Of males whose maximum rate had been less than 10 cigarettes per day, 48.5 percent continued to smoke at this level; approximately 48.9 percent did not smoke at the time of the interview and the rest were occasional smokers (table G). Of those males who smoked 10-20 cigarettes at a maximum, 67.2 percent still smoked the same amount, about 6.2 percent smoked less than 10 cigarettes, 25.6 percent were nonsmokers at the time of the interview, and the rest were occasional smokers. Of those males who smoked 21-40 cigarettes at a maximum rate, about 51.9 percent smoked at the same level, while about 33.3 percent of those with a maximum rate of 41 or more cigarettes a day smoked that amount per day at the time of the 1966 survey.

Among women whose maximum level was 20 or less cigarettes per day, the percentage who were smoking at that level at the time of the survey was markedly higher than that for males who had a comparable maximum level. For women whose maximum rate was 21-40 cigarettes per day, the percentage currently smoking at that level was only slightly higher than that for their male counterparts, and the proportion of women continuing to smoke at a maximum of 41 or more cigarettes was slightly lower than that for males who had reached this level. However, from estimates shown in table $G$ it is apparent that a

Table G. Percent distribution of persons, by current cigarette smoking status according to maximum rate ever attained and sex: United States, 1966 survey

${ }^{1}$ Includes persons whose current daily smoking rates are unknown.
comparatively high percentage of men, regardless of the maximum level attained, had quit smoking cigarettes, while women showed more of a tendency to reduce the number of cigarettes smoked per day.

Percentages complementary to those shown by age group in table 11, i.e., the difference between each percent shown and 100 percent, represent the proportion of persons who were currently smoking at a daily rate less than their maximum. Differences in these complementary percentages through successive age intervals, also shown in the table, represent the cumulative effect of persons who drop back from their maximum rate. Thus, a rough estimate of the proportion of males 45-54 years (at the time of the 1966 survey) reducing their daily cigarette consumption from a maximum of 21-40 cigarettes within the preceding 10 years may be obtained by subtracting from this percentage ( 100 percent minus 53.3 percent $=46.7$ percent) the corresponding value for persons $35-44$ years ( 100 percent minus 56.4 percent $=43.6$ percent) to obtain an estimate of +3.1 percent.

The direct method of obtaining information about changes in smoking patterns was not used because of the time required to obtain a complete smoking history and because informants might not have been willing (or able) to supply a detailed chronology on shifts of smoking habits. In this table it is assumed that the experience for persons in each age group reflects the cumulative result of events occurring at any previous age.

With the exception of very heavy smokers among males 18-24 years, the proportion of both males and females who were smoking at their maximum level was lower in 1966 than in 1955, regardless of age or of the level of the maximum rate (table H). In general, for both men and women, the greatest percent decrease in those smoking at their maximum level occurred among those smoking less than 10 cigarettes per day and those smoking 41 or more per day.

The most definitive estimates produced from the 1966 survey are those pertaining to persons who had quit smoking cigarettes. Approximately 25.7 percent of the men in the population 18 years
and older and 16.4 percent of the women who had ever smoked cigarettes regularly were nonsmokers at the time of the 1966 survey (table J). The proportion who had quit smoking increased directly with advancing age for both men and women.

The percentage of nonsmokers (among those who had ever smoked) was highest among persons who had reached a maximum of 1-9 cigarettes per day. Among those who had reached this level, 48.9 percent of the men and 35.8 percent of the women had become nonsmokers. Among men the
rate of nonsmokers (at the time of the survey) among those who had reached a maximum of $10-20$ cigarettes ( 25.6 percent) was about the same as that for men who had smoked a maximum of 41 or more cigarettes per day ( 23.3 percent). Both groups were heavily weighted with the high proportions of persons 45 years and older who had become nonsmokers. For both men and women, the lowest percentage of nonsmokers was among those who had reached a maximum of $21-40$ cigarettes per day ( 18.3 percent for men and 7.8 percent for women).

Table H. Percent change from 1955 to 1966 in proportion of persons who were smoking cigarettes at their maximum rate at the time of the survey, by sex and age: United States, 1955 and 1966 surveys

| Sex and age | Maximum rate of cigarette smoking |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Under } 10 \\ & \text { daily } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 10-20 \\ & \text { daily } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 21-40 \\ & \text { daily } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 41+ \\ \text { daily } \end{gathered}$ |
| Male | Percent change from 1955 to 1966 |  |  |  |
| All ages, $18+$ years | -36.4 | -14.6 | -24.0 | -30.2 |
| 18-24 years | -16.1 | -5.6 | -31.6 | +19.6 |
| 25-34 years | -35.8 | -9.5 | -20.6 | -12.1 |
| 35-44 years | -36.5 | -15.9 | -20.0 | -42.2 |
| 45-54 years | -41.6 | -16.1 | -24.4 | -28.8 |
| 55-64 years. | -40.3 | -16.0 | -21.7 | -38.8 |
| $65+$ years | -51.6 | -25.9 | -39.7 | -38.0 |
| Female |  |  |  |  |
| Al1 ages, 18+ years | -24.6 | -6.8 | -17.7 | -38.1 |
| 18-24 years | -17.6 | -4.2 | -17.4 | * |
| 25-34 years. | -21. 5 | -4.0 | -16.1 | -37.3 |
| 35-44 years | -25.7 | -8.8 | -17.2 | -48.5 |
| 45-54 years- | -29.1 | -7.4 | -18. 5 | -48.6 |
| 55-64 years | -25.6 | -4.6 | -18.5 | -42.4 |
| $65+$ years-- | -20.2 | -14.7 | -26.2 | * |

Table J. Percent of persons who had ever smoked regularly (during lifetime history) who were nonsmokers of cigarettes at the time of the survey, by sex, age, and maximum daily rate: United States, 1966 survey

| Sex and age | Total | Maximum rate of cigarette smoking |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $1-9$ daily | $\begin{aligned} & 10-20 \\ & \text { daily } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 21-40 \\ & \text { daily } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 41+ \\ \text { daily } \end{gathered}$ |
| Male | Percent nonsmokers at time of survey |  |  |  |  |
| A11 ages, 18+ year | 25.7 | 48.9 | 25.6 | 18.3 | 23.3 |
| 18-24 years | 9.1 | 23.4 | 7.1 | 6.1 | * |
| 25-34 years | 17.8 | 44.5 | 19.7 | 10.4 | 7.8 |
| 35-44 years | 23.7 | 47.9 | 25.1 | 16.5 | 18.9 |
| 45-54 years | 27.4 | 53.8 | 28.5 | 19.5 | 28.0 |
| 55-64 years | 32.9 | 57.5 | 33.0 | 25.7 | 34.3 |
| 65+ years-- | 51.0 | 66.3 | 47.6 | 43.7 | 52.9 |
| Female |  |  |  |  |  |
| A11 ages, $18+$ years | 16.4 | 35.8 | 14.2 | 7.8 | 12.6 |
| 18-24 years | 11.7 | 27.6 | 9.2 | 5.4 | * |
| 25-34 years | 13.9 | 33.7 | 12.4 | 6.5 | * |
| 35-44 years | 16.2 | 35.5 | 14.6 | 7.7 | 17.7 |
| 45-54 years | 16.7 | 40.3 | 14.6 | 7.8 | * |
| 55-64 years | 22.6 | 40.1 | 19.7 | 11.0 | * |
| $65+$ years | 30.5 | 41.4 | 25.5 | 24.8 | * |

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[^7]Table 4. Number of persons 18 years and ovex, by cigarette smoking status, sex, type of respondent, and age: United States, 1966 survey
[Data ate based on housohold interiows of the civilian, noninstitutional population. The survey design, generni qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in appendix I. Definitions of termas are gisen in appendix II]


[^8]Table 5. Percent distribution of persons 18 years and over, by cigarette smoking status according to sex, age at the time of the survey, and type of respondent: United States, 1955 and 1966 surveys
[Data are based on housihold intervens of the cmblum, noninstitutional population. The curvey demgn, general qualifications, and infornation on the relinhility of the estimates aro given in appendiv I Dofintionw of terms are given in appendic II]

| Age, type of respondent, and year of survey | Male |  |  |  |  |  | Female |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Total ${ }^{1}$ | Never smoked cigarettes | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Previously } \\ & \text { smoked } \\ & \text { cigarettes } \end{aligned}$ | Currently smokes cigarettes |  |  | Total ${ }^{1}$ | Never smoked cigarettes | Previously smoked cigarettes | Currently smokes cigarettes |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Under } \\ & \text { 10 } \\ & \text { daily } \\ & \text { (in- } \\ & \text { ciuding } \\ & \text { occa- } \\ & \text { sional) } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 10-20 \\ & \text { daily } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 21+ \\ \text { daily } \end{gathered}$ |  |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Under } \\ \text { do } \\ \text { daily } \\ \text { (in- } \\ \text { cluding } \\ \text { occa- } \\ \text { sional) } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 10-20 } \\ & \text { daily } \end{aligned}$ | $\underset{\text { daily }}{21+}$ |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { All ages, } \\ & \text { I8+ years } \end{aligned}$ | Percent distribution |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Self-respondent: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1955------------ | 100.0 | 30.0 | 13.0 | 12.8 | 29.8 | 14.5 | 100.0 | 65.8 | 4.5 | 13.2 | 14.0 | 2.5 |
| 1966------------ | 100.0 | 27.6 | 21.5 | 6.0 | 28.9 | 15.0 | 100.0 | 58.3 | 7.5 | 6.0 | 22.1 | 5.4 |
| Proxy respondent: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1955------------ | 100.0 | 34.8 | 8.5 | 14.0 | 30.7 | 12.0 | 100.0 | 76.2 | 1.8 | 10.4 | 9.6 | 1.9 |
| 1966------------ | 100.0 | 32.5 | 16.1 | 5.1 | 30.2 | 12.6 | 100.0 | 65.6 | 4.6 | 6.0 | 17.4 | 3.6 |
| 18-24 years |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Self-respondent: 1955------------ | 100.0 | 32.1 | 4.7 | 16.6 | 36.2 | 10.4 | 100.0 | 56.8 | 4.5 | 19.5 | 17.0 | 2.2 |
| 1966------------ | 100.0 | 34.6 | 8.0 | 7.3 | 37.7 | 11.3 | 100.0 | 52.3 | 6.7 | 8.1 | 27.5 | 4.8 |
| Proxy respondent: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1955------------ | 100.0 | 45.2 | 2.8 | 19.1 | 26.3 | 6.6 | 100.0 | 73.8 | 1.0 | 13.9 | 9.8 | 1.4 |
| 1966----------- | 100.0 | 48.1 | 4.3 | 6.2 | 30.9 | 5.0 | 100.0 | 69.6 | 2.3 | 6.5 | 16.6 | 1.8 |
| 25~44 years |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Self-respondent: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1955------------ | 100.0 | 20.7 | 11.4 | 11.5 | 37.0 | 19.4 | 100.0 | 54.3 | 5.9 | 16.2 | 20.1 | 3.5 |
| 1966------------ | 100.0 | 21.2 | 17.3 | 4.8 | 34.5 | 21.5 | 100.0 | 48.0 | 8.3 | 7.2 | 27.9 | 7.8 |
| Proxy respondent: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1955------------ | 100.0 | 26.3 | 8.3 | 13.1 | 37.4 | 14.9 | 100.0 | 65.6 | 2.6 | 13.9 | 14.9 | 3.1 |
| 1966------------ | 100.0 | 25.6 | 15.7 | 5.0 | 35.1 | 15.1 | 100.0 | 52.9 | 6.5 | 6.6 | 24.7 | 6.0 |
| 45-64 years |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Self-respondent: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1955------------ | 100.0 | 27.3 | 16.1 | 13.3 | 28.4 | 14.9 | 100.0 | 74.7 | 3.6 | 10.4 | 9.2 | 2.1 |
| 1966------------ | 100.0 | 21.7 | 24.4 | 5.9 | 29.5 | 17.1 | 100.0 | 59.5 | 8.4 | 5.2 | 21.0 | 5.0 |
| Proxy respondent: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1955------------ | 100.0 | 35.0 | 10.9 | 13.8 | 28.0 | 12.3 | 100.0 | 80.5 | 1.9 | 7.9 | 7.7 | 2.0 |
| 1966----------- | 100.0 | 27.5 | 21.3 | 4.8 | 28.1 | 13.4 | 100.0 | 61.7 | 5.8 | 6.9 | 18.3 | 4.2 |
| $65+$ years |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Self-respondent: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1955------------ | 100.0 | 57.7 | 14.8 | 13.0 | 11.2 | 3.3 | 100.0 | 93.1 | 1.6 | 3.6 | 1.5 | 0.2 |
| 1966------------ | 100.0 | 42.4 | 30.6 | 7.2 | 15.0 | 3.9 | 100.0 | 86.9 . | 4.1 | 3.1 | 4.7 | 0.4 |
| Proxy respondent: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1955------------ | 100.0 | 64.6 | 10.2 | 11.5 | 9.8 | 3.9 | 100.0 | 95.5 | 2.1 | 2.0 | 1.2 | 0.1 |
| 1966---m------- | 100.0 | 52.1 | 22.9 | 4.5 | 13.9 | 2.3 | 100.0 | 88.5 | 3.3 | 2.6 | 3.7 | 1.2 |

[^9]Table 6. Number of persons 18 years and over who had ever smoked cigarettes regularly, by sex, age, and smoking status at the time of the survey: United States, 1955 and 1966 surveys
Data are based on household interviews of the civilian, noninstitutional population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in appendix II]


[^10]NOTE: The estimates shown in this table differ from those in table 1 because persons who had always been occasional smokers are excluded.

Table 7. Percent distribution of persons 18 years and over who had ever smoked cigarettes regularly, by smoking status at the time of the survey according to age at the time of the survey and sex: United States, 1955 and 1966 surveys
[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian, noninstitutional population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in appendix II]

| Year of survey, sex, and age | Total ${ }^{1}$ | Former regular cigarette smoker |  |  | Current regular cigarette smoker |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Total | Nonsmoker of cigarettes now | Occasional smoker of cigarettes now | Total ${ }^{1}$ | $\stackrel{1-9}{\text { daily }}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 10-20 } \\ & \text { daily } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 21-40 \\ & \text { daily } \end{aligned}$ | $\stackrel{41+}{\text { daily }}$ |
| 1955 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Male |  | Percent distribution |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $18+$ years-- | 100.0 | 17.1 | 15.5 | 1.6 | 82.9 | 14.2 | 47.5 | 19.5 | 1.7 |
| 18-24 years------- | 100.0 | 6.4 | 5.211.2 | 1.2 | 93.6 | 23.2 | 55.4 | 14.3 | 1.2 |
| 25-34 years------- | 100.0 | 12.5 |  | 1.3 | 87.5 | 11.7 | 54.1 | 20.5 |  |
| 35-44 years------- | 100.0 | 15.3 | 13.7 |  | 84.7 | 11.4 | 47.7 | 23.1 | $\frac{1.2}{2.5}$ |
| 45-54 years------- | 100.0 | 17.6 | 16.1 | 1.6 | 82.4 | 12.7 | 45.7 | 21.7 | 2.3 |
| 55-64 years------- | 100.0 | 26.0 | 24.2 | 1.8 | 74.0 | 15.4 | 40.5 | 16.7 | 1.3 |
| 65+ years--------- | 100.0 | 36.2 | 32.6 | 3.7 | 63.8 | 22.7 | 31.1 | 8.7 | 1.2 |
| Female |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $18+$ years -- | 100.0 | 13.0 | 11.1 | 1.9 | 87.0 | 31.1 | 47.0 | 8.0 | 0.5 |
| 18-24 years------- | 100.0 | 10.3 | 8.6 | 1.7 | 89.7 | 38.2 | 45.2 | 6.1 | 0 * |
| 25-34 years------- | 100.0 | 13.712.3 | 11.6 | 2.1 | 86.387.7 | 28.2 | 49.0 | 8.28.0 |  |
| 35-44 years------- | 100.0 |  | 10.5 |  |  | 29.4 | 49.5 |  | \% $\%$ |
| 45-54 years------- | 100.0 | 12.5 | 11.2 | 1.3 | 87.5 | 30.0 | 45.9 | 10.27.9 |  |
| 55-64 years------- | 100.0 | 16.5 | 14.4 |  | 83.5 | 35.9 | 38.2 |  | * |
| 65+ years--------- | 100.0 | 26.3 | 21.6 | \% | 73.7 | 38.9 | 31.4 | * | * |
| 1966 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Male |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| All ages, $18+$ years-- | 100.0 | 26.0 | 25.7 | 0.4 | 74.0 | 7.5 | 44.1 | 17.2 | 1.8 |
| 18-24 years--.---- | 100.0 |  | 9.1 | * | 90.8 | 11.7 | 60.7 | 11.1 | 1.2 |
| 25-34 years----.-- | 100.0 | 18.2 | 17.8 | 0.4 | 81.8 | 6.1 | 51.7 | 19.8 | 1.7 |
| 35-44 years----.-- | 100.0 | 24.1 | 23.7 | 0.4 | 75.9 | 6.0 | 43.0 | 21.6 | 2.52.2 |
| 45-54 years------- | 100.0 | 27.7 | 27.4 |  | 72.3 | 5.8 | 41.0 | 19.5 |  |
| 55-64 years--.---- | 100.0 | $\begin{aligned} & 33.2 \\ & 51.6 \end{aligned}$ |  | 0.6 | $\begin{aligned} & 66.8 \\ & 48.4 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 7.8 \\ 11.1 \end{array}$ | 37.028.1 | 16.75.9 | 1.5 |
| 65+ years--------- | 100.0 |  | $51.0$ |  |  |  |  |  | * |
| Female |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| All ages, 18+ years-- | 100.0 | 16.9 | 16.4 | 0.5 | 83.1 | 14.7 | 53.8 | 12.0 | 0.7 |
| 18-24 years-.-.--- | 100.0 | 12.0 | 11.7 | * | 88.0 | 18.0 | 58.1 | 8.5 | * |
| 25-34 years---..-- | 100.0 | 14.3 | 13.9 | * | 85.7 | 14.1 | $\begin{aligned} & 55.8 \\ & 53.6 \end{aligned}$ | 13.914.3 | 0.80.80.8$*$$*$ |
| 35-44 years---7--- | 100.0 | 16.7 | 16.2 | 0.5 | 83.3 | 12.9 |  |  |  |
| 45-54 years---...-- | 100.0 | 17.2 | 16.7 | * | 82.8 | 12.2 | 54.4 | 13.2 |  |
| 55-64 years------- | 100.0 | 23.5 | 22.6 | * | 76.568.5 | 15.623.3 | 49.3 | 8.64.9 |  |
| 65+ years-------- | 100.0 | 31.5 | 30.6 |  |  |  |  |  |  |

[^11]Table 8. Cumulative percentages of females becoming regular cigarette smokers prior to the age specified, by age at the time of the survey: United States, 1955 and 1966 surveys
[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian, noninstitutional population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in appendix I]

| Age at which started smoking | Age at time of the survey |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & 18-24 \\ & \text { years }{ }^{1} \end{aligned}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & 25-34 \\ & \text { years }^{1} \end{aligned}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & 35-44 \\ & \text { years } \end{aligned}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & 45-54 \\ & \text { years } \end{aligned}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & 55-64 \\ & \text { years } \end{aligned}$ |  | 65 years and over |  |
|  | 1955 | 1966 | 1955 | 1966 | 1955 | 1966 | 1955 | 1966 | 1955 | 1966 | 1955 | 1966 |
|  | Cumulative percentage |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10 years |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 11 years | 0.2 | 2.2 | 0.2 | 2.2 | 0.1 | 2.2 | 0.1 | 2.4 | 0.2 | 1.2 | * | 0.9 |
| 12 years | 0.2 | 2.7 | 0.2 | 2.8 | 0.1 | 2.7 | 0.1 | 2.8 | 0.2 | 1.4 | * | 1.0 |
| 13 years | 0.3 | 3.7 | 0.4 | 3.5 | 0.2 | 3.0 | 0.1 | 3.2 | 0.2 | 1.5 | * | 1.0 |
| 14 years | 0.9 | 5.4 | 0.6 | 5.0 | 0.3 | 3.9 | 0.2 | 3.9 | 0.2 | 1.9 | 0.1 | 1.1 |
| 15 years | 2.1 | 8.4 | 1.5 | 7.4 | 0.6 | 5.5 | 0.3 | 5.2 | 0.3 | 2.2 | 0.1 | 1.2 |
| 16 years- | 4.8 | 14.5 | 3.2 | 13.3 | 1.7 | 8.8 | 0.6 | 7.7 | 0.6 | 3.2 | 0.2 | 1.4 |
| 17 years | 9.8 | 21.2 | 7.0 | 19.0 | 4.2 | 12.6 | 1.3 | 10.3 | 0.7 | 4.1 | 0.4 | 1.4 |
| 18 years | 15.9 | 29.9 | 11.9 | 27.9 | 7.0 | 20.4 | 2.0 | 15.7 | 0.8 | 6.1 | 0.4 | 1.7 |
| 19 years | 24.3 | 35.3 | 20.2 | 32.9 | 12.3 | 24.3 | 4.1 | 18.1 | 1.2 | 7.2 | 0.6 | 1.9 |
| 20 years | 28.9 | 39.6 | 23.9 | 38.1 | 14.5 | 29.8 | 4.7 | 22.9 | 1.4 | 10.1 | 0.7 | 2.4 |
| 21 years | 32.6 | 42.6 | 28.9 | 41.2 | 19.6 | 33.6 | 7.5 | 25.6 | 2.1 | 11.3 | 0.9 | 2.7 |
| 22 years | 34.7 | 44.0 | 31.9 | 43.0 | 22.0 | 36.0 | 8.7 | 27.2 | 2.3 | 12.4 | 1.0 | 3.0 |
| 23 years | 35.8 | 44.7 | 34.0 | 44.4 | 23.4 | 37.3 | 9.7 | 28.6 | 2.4 | 13.0 | 1.0 | 3.2 |
| 24 years | 36.2 | 44.9 | 35.3 | 45.2 | 24.8 | 38.4 | 10.3 | 29.6 | 2.6 | 13.7 | 1.1 | 3.3 |
| 25 years | - | - | 36.2 | 46.3 | 25.6 | 40.7 | 10.9 | 32.7 | 2.8 | 16.7 | 1.1 | 4.0 |
| 26 years | - | - | 37.6 | 47.0 | 28.0 | 41.3 | 13.4 | 33.2 | 3.4 | 17.1 | 1.4 | 4.1 |
| 27 years | - | - | 38.0 | 47.5 | 28.9 | 41.7 | 13.7 | 33.9 | 3.6 | 17.5 | 1.4 | 4.3 |
| 28 years | - | - | 38.7 | 48.0 | 29.6 | 42.3 | 14.1 | 34.3 | 3.7 | 18.1 | 1.4 | 4.4 |
| 29 years | - | - | 39.3 | 48.4 | 30.5 | 42.6 | 14.7 | 34.6 | 4.0 | 18.3 | 1.4 | 4.5 |
| 30 years- | - | - | 39.8 | 48.9 | 30.8 | 43.6 | 14.9 | 36.4 | 4.1 | 20.7 | 1.4 | 5.5 |
| 31 years - | - | - | 40.3 | 49.3 | 32.6 | 43.8 | 17.0 | 36.5 | 5.5 | 20.9 | 1.6 | 5.5 |
| 32 years--------------- | - | - | 40.7 | 49.7 | 32.7 | 44.0 | 17.3 | 36.8 | 5.6 | 21.1 | 1.7 | 5.6 |
| 33 years- | - | - | 40.9 | 50.1 | 33.2 | 44.3 | 17.8 | 37.0 | 5.9 | 21.2 | 1.7 | 5.7 |
| 34 years- | - | - | 41.2 | 50.3 | 33.4 | 44.5 | 18.2 | 37.2 | 5.9 | 21.3 | 1.7 | 5.7 |
| 35 years--------------- | - | - | 42.0 | - | 33.8 | 44.9 | 18.5 | 38.2 | 6.1 | 22.3 | 1.7 | 6.5 |

[^12]Table 9. Number of persons 18 years and over who had ever smoked cigarettes regularly, by sex, age, maximum rate attained, and smoking status at the time of the survey: United States, 1955 survey
[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian, noninstitutional population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in appendix II]

| Sex, age, and maximum rate attained | Total | Former regular cigarette smoker |  |  | Current regular cigarette smoker |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Total | Nonsmokex of cigarettes now | Occasional smoker of cigarettes now | Total | Now smoking at maximum | Now smoking below maximum |
| MALE | Number of persons in thousands |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| All ages, $18+$ years |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 29,746 | 5,079 | 4,597 | 482 | 24,667 | 21,880 | 2,787 |
| Less than 10 cigarettes daily-...--- | $\begin{array}{r} 4,263 \\ 15,994 \\ 8,124 \\ 1,055 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1,012 \\ & 2,602 \\ & 1,053 \\ & 247 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 959 \\ 2,270 \\ 983 \\ 243 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 53 \\ 332 \\ 70 \\ \% \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 3,251 \\ 13,392 \\ 7,071 \\ 808 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 3,241 \\ 12,590 \\ 5,546 \\ 503 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 802 \\ 1,525 \\ 305 \end{array}$ |
| 10-20 cigarettes daily-------------- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 21-40 cigarettes daily--------------- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 41 or more cigarettes daily--------- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 18-24 years |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total ${ }^{1}$--- | 2,782 | 177 | 144 | 33 | 2,605 | 2,379 | 226 |
| Less than 10 cigarettes daily-.----- | $\begin{array}{r} 642 \\ 1,562 \\ 502 \\ 54 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 70 \\ 82 \\ \vdots \\ \psi \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 60 \\ 62 \\ * \\ * \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & * \\ & * \\ & * \\ & * \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 572 \\ 1,480 \\ 487 \\ 49 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 572 \\ 1,415 \\ 373 \\ \% \end{array}$ | $*$6511430 |
| 10-20 cigarettes daily---. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 21-40 cigarettes daily--------------- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 41 or more cigarettes daily--------- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 25-34 years |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total ${ }^{1}$---- | 7,603 | 948 | 851 | 97 | 6,655 | 5,899 | 756 |
| Less than 10 cigarettes daily------- | $\begin{array}{r} 816 \\ 4,386 \\ 2,125 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 141 \\ & 564 \\ & 186 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 123 \\ 500 \\ 176 \\ 36 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \% \\ 64 \\ \% \\ \% \\ \% \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 675 \\ 3,822 \\ 1,939 \\ 186 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 675 \\ 3,639 \\ 1,493 \\ 92 \end{array}$ | $*$183446 |
| 10-20 cigarettes daily--------------- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 21-40 cigarettes daily-- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 35-44 years |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total ${ }^{1}$ - | 7,418 | 1,132 | 1,015 |  | 117 | 6,286 | 5,623 | 663 |
|  | $\begin{array}{r} 849 \\ 3,852 \\ 2,362 \\ 281 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 202 \\ 559 \\ 289 \\ 39 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 188 \\ 482 \\ 273 \\ 39 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} * \\ 87 \\ * \\ * \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 647 \\ 3,293 \\ 2,073 \\ 242 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 645 \\ 3,127 \\ 1,665 \\ 186 \end{array}$ | *16640856 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 45-54 years |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total ${ }^{1}$--- | 5,944 | 1,045 | 957 | 88 | 4,899 | 4,336 | 563 |
| Less than 10 cigarettes daily------ | $\begin{array}{r} 756 \\ 3,121 \\ 1,718 \\ 277 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 194 \\ 515 \\ 232 \\ 66 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 186 \\ 455 \\ 217 \\ 66 \end{array}$ | $\begin{gathered} * \\ 60 \\ \# \\ \# \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 562 \\ 2,606 \\ 1,486 \\ 211 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 562 \\ 2,432 \\ 1,211 \\ 131 \end{array}$ | *174275 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 41 or more cigarettes daily--------- |  |  |  |  |  |  | 80 |
| 55-64 years |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total ${ }^{1}$ | 3,871 | 1,006 | 937 | 69 | 2,865 | 2,520 | 345 |
| Less than 10 cigarettes daily-....-- | $\begin{array}{r} 650 \\ 2,018 \\ 1,024 \\ 136 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 202 \\ 519 \\ 196 \\ 67 \end{array}$ | 19946818763 | $*$51$*$$*$ | 4481,49982869 | 4441,39063452 | $*$109194$\%$ |
| 10-20 cigarettes daily-- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 41 or more cigarettes daily----.---- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $65+$ years |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total ${ }^{1}$ - | 2,128 | 771 | 693 | 78 | 1,357 | 1,123 | 234 |
| Less than 10 cigarettes daily------ | $\begin{array}{r} 550 \\ 1,055 \\ 393 \\ 85 \end{array}$ | 20336313534 | 20331311534 | 50$*$$*$ | $\begin{array}{r} 347 \\ 692 \\ 258 \\ 51 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 343 \\ 587 \\ 170 \\ \% \end{array}$ | 1058828 |
| 10-20 cigarettes daily--------------- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 21-40 cigarettes daily---------------- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 41 or more cigarettes daily--------- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

[^13]Table 9, Number of persons 18 years and over who had ever smoked cigarettes regularly, by sex, age, maximum rate attained, and smoking status at the time of the survey: United States, 1955 survey-Con.
[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian, noninstitutional population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in appendix II]

| Sex, age, and maximum rate attained | Total | Former regular cigarette smoker |  |  | Current regular cigarette smoker |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Total | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Nonsmoker } \\ & \text { of } \\ & \text { cigarettes } \\ & \text { now } \end{aligned}$ | Occasional smoker of cigarettes now | Total | Now smoking at maximum |  |
| FEMALE |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| All ages, $18+$ years | Number of persons in thousands |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Tota ${ }^{1}$------------------------- | 14,933 | 1,947 | 1,664 | 283 | 12,986 | 11,908 | 1,022 |
| Less than 10 cigarettes daily-------10-20 cigarettes daily- <br> 21-40 cigarettes daily <br>  | $\begin{aligned} & 4,928 \\ & 7,991 \\ & 1,731 \\ & 166 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 852 \\ 831 \\ 158 \\ 34 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 784 \\ 650 \\ 137 \\ 29 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 68 \\ 181 \\ \% \\ \div \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 4,076 \\ & 7,160 \\ & 1,573 \\ & 132 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 4,055 \\ 6,620 \\ 1,152 \\ 81 \end{array}$ | $*$51641151 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 18-24 years |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total ${ }^{1}$--- | 2,361 | 243 | 204 | 39 | 2,118 | 1,899 | 211 |
| Less than 10 cigarettes daily------- | $\begin{array}{r} 914 \\ 1,164 \\ 246 \\ * \end{array}$ | 12288$*$$*$ | $\begin{array}{r} 114 \\ 59 \\ \% \\ \% \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} * \\ 29 \\ * \\ * \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 792 \\ 1,076 \\ 231 \\ * \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 790 \\ 975 \\ 134 \\ \quad \end{array}$ | *10191* |
| 10-20 cigarettes daily-------------- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 25-34 years |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Tota1 ${ }^{1}$------------------------ | 4,856 | 664 | 562 | 102 | 4,192 | 3,803 | 369 |
| Less than 10 cigarettes daily------- | $\begin{array}{r} 1,430 \\ 2,756 \\ 577 \\ 69 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 260 \\ 326 \\ 55 \\ * \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 239 \\ 257 \\ 48 \\ * \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} * \\ 69 \\ * \\ * \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 1,170 \\ 2,430 \\ 522 \\ 58 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 1,160 \\ 2,239 \\ 372 \\ 32 \end{array}$ | $*$18314826 |
| 10-20 cigarettes daily-------------- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 21-40 cigarettes daily------------------- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 35-44 years |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Tota $1^{1}-\cdots-$ | 4,102 | 506 | 430 | 76 | 3,596 | 3,379 | 205 |
| Less than 10 cigarettes daily <br> 10-20 cigarettes daily- <br> 21-40 cigarettes daily- | $\begin{array}{r} 1,288 \\ 2,308 \\ 443 \\ 31 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 211 \\ 221 \\ 40 \\ \% \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 188 \\ 182 \\ 34 \\ * \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} * \\ 39 \\ * \\ * \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 1,077 \\ 2,087 \\ 403 \\ * \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 1,073 \\ 1,959 \\ 328 \\ * \end{array}$ | *12274$*$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 45-54 years |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 2,361 | 294 | 264 | 30 | 2,067 | 1,913 | 144 |
| Less than 10 cigarettes daily------- | $\begin{array}{r} 774 \\ 1,190 \\ 333 \\ 37 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 135 \\ 108 \\ 29 \\ * \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 127 \\ 89 \\ 26 \\ * \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & * \\ & * \\ & * \\ & * \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 639 \\ 1,082 \\ 304 \\ 30 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 637 \\ 1,015 \\ 238 \\ \ldots \end{array}$ | $*$6065$*$ |
| 10-20 cigarettes daily------------- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 21-40 cigarettes daily------------- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 55-64 years |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total ${ }^{1}-\mathrm{-----------------------}$ | 919 | 152 | 132 | * | 767 | 685 | 76 |
| Less than 10 cigarettes daily------- | $\begin{array}{r} 359 \\ 429 \\ 110 \\ * \end{array}$ | 7459$*$$*$ | $\begin{array}{r} 70 \\ 43 \\ * \\ * \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & * \\ & * \\ & * \\ & * \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 285 \\ 370 \\ 96 \\ * \end{array}$ | 28232868$*$ | $*$4028$*$ |
| 10-20 cigarettes daily------------- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $65+$ years |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total ${ }^{1}$ | 334 | 88 | 72 | * | 246 | 229 | * |
| Less than 10 cigarettes daily------ | 163144$*$$*$ | 5029$*$$*$ | 46$*$$*$$*$ | $*$$*$$*$$*$$*$ | 113115$*$$*$ | 113105$*$$*$ |  |
| 10-20 cigarettes daily-------------- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 41 or more cigarettes daily--------- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

[^14]Table 10. Number of persons 18 years and over who had ever smoked cigarettes regularly, by sex, age, maximum rate attained, and smoking status at the time of the survey: United States, 1966 survey
[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian, noninstitutional population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in appendix II]


[^15]Table 10. Number of persons 18 years and over who had ever smoked cigarettes regularly, by sex, age, maximum rate attained, and smoking status at the time of the survey: United States, 1966 survey-Con.
[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian, noninstitutional population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in appendix I. Defnitions of terms are given in appendix II]


[^16]Table 11. Percentage of regular cigarette smokers (lifetime history) continuing to smoke at their maximum according to maximum rate attained, by sex and age at the time of the survey: United States, 1955 and 1966 surveys
[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian, noninstitutional population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliablity of the estimates are given in appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in appendix II]

| Year of survey and age | Maximum rate of cigarette smoking |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Male |  |  |  | Female |  |  |  |
|  | Less than 10 daily | $\begin{aligned} & 10-20 \\ & \text { daily } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 21-40 \\ & \text { daily } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 41+ \\ \text { daily } \end{gathered}$ | Less than 10 daily | $\begin{aligned} & 10-20 \\ & \text { daily } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 21-40 \\ & \text { daily } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 41+ \\ \text { daily } \end{gathered}$ |
| 1955 | Percent at maximum |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| A11 ages, 18 years and over- | 76.0 | 78.7 | 68.3 | 47.7 | 82.3 | 82.8 | 66.6 | 48.8 |
| 18-24 years (1) | 89.1 | 90.6 | 74.3 | 35.2 | 86.4 | 83.8 | 54.5 | * |
| 25-34 years (2)---------------------- | 82.7 | 83.0 | 70.3 | 41.4 | 81.1 | 81.2 | 64.5 | 46.4 |
| 35-44 years (3)---------------------1-2-- | 76.2 | 81.2 | 70.5 | 66.2 | 83.3 | 84.9 | 74.0 |  |
| 45-54 years (4)- | 74.3 | 77.9 | 70.5 | 47.3 | 82.3 | 85.3 | 71.5 | 62.253.8 |
| 55-64 years (5)-- | 68.362.4 | $\begin{aligned} & 68.9 \\ & 55.6 \end{aligned}$ | 61.9 | 38.2 | 78.6 | 76.2 | 62.2 |  |
| 65 years and over (6)--------------1-1 |  |  | 43.3 | 27.1 | 69.3 | 72.9 | 52.4 | 53.8 $*$ |

First order differences of complementary percentages

| (3)-(2) | +6.5 | +1.8 | -0.2 | -24.8 | -2.2 | -3.7 | -9.5 | -14.9 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| (4)-(3) | +1.9 | +3.3 | - | +18.9 | +1.0 | -0.4 | +2.5 | -0.9 |
| (5)-(4) | $+6.0$ | +9.0 | +8.6 | +9.1 | +3.7 | +9.1 | +9.3 | +8.4 |
| (6)-(5) | +5.9 | +13.3 | +18.6 | +11.1 | +9.3 | +3.3 | +9.8 | * |

## 1966

All ages, 18 years and over-
(3) - (2)
(4) $-(3)$
(5) $-(4)$
(6)-(5)

Percent at maximum

| 48.5 | 67.2 | 51.9 | 33.3 | 62.1 | 77.2 | 54.8 | 30.2 |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | :--- |
| 74.8 | 25.5 | 50.8 | 42.1 | 71.2 | 80.3 | 45.0 | 27.4 |
| 53.1 | 75.1 | 55.8 | 36.4 | 63.7 | 78.0 | 54.1 | 29.1 |
| 48.4 | 68.3 | 56.4 | 38.3 | 61.9 | 77.4 | 61.3 | 31.6 |
| 43.4 | 65.4 | 53.3 | 33.7 | 58.4 | 79.0 | 58.3 | 32.0 |
| 40.8 | 57.9 | 48.5 | 23.4 | 58.5 | 72.7 | 50.7 | 31.0 |
| 30.2 | 41.2 | 26.1 | 16.8 | 55.3 | 62.2 | 38.7 | 16.7 |

## First order differences of complementary percentages

| +4.7 | +6.8 | -0.6 | -1.9 | +1.8 | +0.6 | -7.2 | -2.5 |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| +5.0 | +2.9 | +3.1 | +4.6 |  | +3.5 | -1.6 | +3.0 |
| +2.6 | +7.5 | +4.8 | +10.3 |  | -0.1 | +6.3 | +7.6 |
| +10.6 | +16.7 | +22.4 | +6.6 |  | +3.2 | +10.5 | +12.0 |$+14.3$

NOTE: The difference between each percent shown in this table and 100 percent represents the proportion of persons who were currently smoking at a daily rate less than their maximum. Differences of these percentages through successive age intervals, shown in the table, represent the cumulative effect of persons who drop back from their maximum rate. For example, a rough estimate of the proportion of males 45-54 years (1966 survey) reducing their consumption from a maximum of 21-40 cigarettes within the praceding 10 years can be obtained by subtracting from this percentage ( 100 purcent minus 53.3 percent $=46.7$ percent) the corresponding value for persons $35-44$ years ( 100 percent minus 56.4 percent $=43.6$ percent) to obtain an estimate of +3.1 percent.

## APPENDIX I

## SOURCE AND RELIABILITY OF THE DATA

Information on the smoking habits of the civilian, noninstitutional population was collected during February 1955 and during June 1966 in supplements to the Current Population Survey conducted by the Bureau of the Census. For the 1955 survey, the sample design was spread over 230 sample areas comprising 453 counties and independent cities, with coverage in each of the 48 States and the District of Columbia. Approximately 21,000 households, which contained about 45,000 persons 18 years of age or over, were designated for inclusion in the survey. Of these 21,000 households, about 4.4 percent were "noninterview," that is, households for which no information was recorded because no interview could be obtained. In order to account for the experience of persons in noninterviewed households, the weights assigned to other households of similar characteristics residing in the sample areas were increased. In addition to the general nonresponse, tobacco smoking information was not reported for about 4.5 percent of the persons; these persons were not allocated to the smoking status categories.

For the 1966 survey, the sample design was spread over 357 areas comprising 701 counties and independent cities, with coverage in each of the 50 States and the District of Columbia. Approximately 35,000 households, which contained about 69,000 persons 18 years of age or over, were designated for inclusion in the survey. Of these 35,000 households, about 1,500 were visited, but interviews were not obtained because the occupants were not found at home after repeated calls or were unavailable for some other reason. As in February 1955, these "noninterviewed" households were taken into account by use of noninterview adjustment factors. In addition to the general nonresponse, tobaccosmoking information was not reported for about 2.1 percent of the persons; however, more than half of these persons were allocated to the smoking status categories.

Since the estimates in this report are based on a sample, they may differ somewhat from the figures that would have been obtained from a complete census, using the same schedules, instructions, and enumerators. Particular care should be exercised in the interpretation of figures based on relatively small numbers oi cases as well as small differences between figures. As in any survey work, the results are subject to errors of response and of reporting as well as being subject to sampling variability.

The standard error is primarily a measure of sampling variability, that is, the variations that occur by chance because a sample rather than the entire population is surveyed. As calculated for this report, the standard error also partially measures the effect of response and enumeration errors, but it does not measure, as such, any systematic biases in the data. The chances are about 68 out of 100 that an estimate from the sample would differ from a complete census tivure by less than the standard error. The chances are anout 95 out of 100 that the difference would be less than twice the standard error.

The figures presented in tables I, II, III, and IV are approximations of the standard errors of various 1966 and 1955 estimates shown in this report. They should be interpreted as providing an indication of the order of magnitude of the standard errors rather than the precise standard error for any specific item.

For a difference between two sample figures (that is, one from 1966 and the other from 1955, or both from the same year), the standard error is approximately the square root of the sum of the squares of the standard error of each estimate considered separately. This formula will represent the actual standard error quite accurately for the difference between estimates of the same characteristics 10 years apart, or for the difference between separate and uncorrelated characteristics in the same year.

As an example, assume that the tables showed the 1966 total number of persons smoking a specific number of cigarettes was 750,000 . Linear interpolation using table I shows that the standard error of this estimate is approximately 35,000 . Also, if the tables showed the corresponding 1955 estimate to be 600,000 , then linear interpolation using table III shows that the standard error of this estimate is approximately 41,000 . Therefore, the standard error of the difference between the two estimates is approximately 53,900 . The chances are 68 out of 100 that the estimated difference would be less than 53,900 if the actual difference is zero. The chances are 95 out of 100 that the estimated difference would be less than 107,800 if the actual difference is zero. In this illustration, therefore, we conclude the estimates of 750,000 and 600,000 are significantly different.

Table I. Approximate standard errors for estimated numbers for 1966 shown in this report

| Estimate | Standard error |
| :---: | :---: |
| 25,000- | 6,000 |
| 50,000 | 9,000 |
| 100,000- | 13,000 |
| 250,000 | 20,000 |
| 500,000- | 29,000 |
| 1,000,000- | 41,000 |
| 2,500,000- | 64,000 |
| 5,000,000- | 91,000 |
| 10,000,000- | 130,000 |
| 25,000,000 | 208,000 |
| 50,000,000 | 303,000 |
| 100,000,000-- | 360,000 |

Table II. Approximate standard errors of estimated percentages for 1966. shown in this report

| Base of percentage | Estimated percent |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & 2 \\ & \text { or } \\ & 98 \end{aligned}$ | 5 or 95 | 10 or 90 | 25 or 75 | 50 |
| 250 | 1.1 | 1.7 | 2.4 | 3.5 | 4.1 |
| 500 | 0.8 | 1.3 | 1.7 | 2.5 | 2.9 |
| 1,000 | 0.6 | 0.9 | 1.2 | 1.8 | 2.0 |
| 2,500 | 0.4 | 0.6 | 0.8 | 1.1 | 1.3 |
| 5,000 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.8 | 0.9 |
| 10,000 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.6 | 0.6 |
| 25,000 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.4 | 0.4 |
| 50,000 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.3 |
| 100,000 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.3 |

Table III. Approximate standard errors for estimated numbers for 1955 shown in this report

| Estimate | Standard error |
| :---: | :---: |
| 25,000 | 8,000 |
| 50,000 | 12,000 |
| 100,000 | 17,000 |
| 250,000 | 26,000 |
| 500,000- | 38,000 |
| 1,000,000-- | 53,000 |
| 2,500,000 | 83,000 |
| 5,000,000- | 118,000 |
| 10,000,000- | 169,000 |
| 25,000,000- | 270,000 |
| 50,000,000 | 394,000 |
| 100,000,000 | 468,000 |

Table IV. Approximate standard errors of estimated percentages for 1955 shown in this report


## APPENDIX II <br> DEFINITIONS AND CONCEPTS

## Cigaretto Smoking Concepts

The smoking habits questionnaires used in the 1955 and 1966 surveys are reproduced in appendix III. Since the questions on the two forms were not identical, the definitions and concepts used in the surveys may differ slightly. For this reason, the concepts relative to the 1955 survey are, whenever possible, quoted directly from the Public Health Service Monograph, Number 45 , cited earlier. References to responses to specific questions, cited below, relate to the questionnaires used in the surveys.

## Never Smoked Cigarettes

1955: A person who never smoked cigaretes ('No' in Section I, question $A$, of the 1955 questionnaire) or who smoked less than 10 packs of cigarettes in his liferime ('Yes' in Section I, question A, and 'No' in question $\mathrm{B}-2-\mathrm{a}$ ).

1966: A person who has never smoked more than 100 cigarettes (five packs of cigarettes) during his entire life is considered to have never smoked cigarettes ("No" to question 41 on the questionnaire).

## Regular Cigarette Smoker

1955: "A regular cigarette smoker is defined as a person who smoked cigarettes every day (any of boxes 2-5 checked in question B-1-a or B-2-a in Section I)."

1966: A regular cigarette smoker is defined as a person who smoked on the average at least one cigarette per day.

## Occasional Cigarette Smoker

1955: 'An occasional cigarette smoker is a person who checked box 1, 'smoke once in a while, not every day,' in Section I, question B-1-a."

1966: An occasional cigarette smoker is defined as a person who smoked on the average less than one cigarette per day.

## Former Smoker of Cigarettes

For the comparison of estimates shown in this report, former smokers in both the 1955 and 1966 surveys have been defined as persons who once were regular or occasional smokers, but were not regular or occasional cigarette smokers at the time of the survey. A classification in the 1955 survey, "discontinued smoker," defined as "a person who once was a regular smoker as defined above, but who was a nonsmoker or an occasional smoker at the time of the survey," was not used in the present report.

## Current Smoker of Cigarettes

In both surveys, a current cigarette smoker is defined as a person who was smoking regularly or occasionally (as defined in the particular survey) at the time of the interview.

## Number of Cigarettes Smoked Per Day

Responses to the number of cigarettes smoked (questions 42 B and 47 in the 1966 questionnaire) were grouped into intervals comparable to those shown on the 1955 questionnaire. The intervals $1-9,10-20,21$ 40 , and 41 or more cigarettes were used for the presentation of data on the present amount smoked and the maximum amount smoked.

# facsimiles of sections of CPS Questionnalres 

## 1955 SURVEY

| SECTION I CIGABETTES (Answer all applicabla questiona in Chis Section; then continue with Section II) | A. Have you ever maked any cicaretten? <br> 1. No (Skip to Section II = Cigars) <br> 2. $\square$ Yes (Answer question below) <br> B. Do you moke any cigarettes at the prement time? <br> 1. Yes (Answer arestions below) <br> a. How many cigarettes do you awoke a day on the average? <br> (1) Ewoke once in a mile, not every day Less thin 10 cigarettes ( $1 / 2$ peck) <br> (3) $\square$ Between 10 and 20 cigurettes ( $1 / 2-1$ pack) <br> (4) $\square$ Between 21 and 40 cigarettes (1-2 packs) <br> (5) $\square$ Over 40 cigarettes (over 2 packs) <br> b. Did you ever regularly smoke more than this mount eact day? <br> (1) $\square$ No <br> (2) $\square$ Yes: Wat was the maximin number of cigarettes you regularly suoked eech dxy? $\qquad$ <br> c. How old were you when you started smoking $\qquad$ <br> d. How many years have you been smoking cigarettes? | d. No (Answer quastions below) <br> m. During your entire life, have you smoked as many as 5 to 10 packs of cigarettes? <br> (1) Yes <br> (2) No (Skip to Section II) <br> b. How old were you when you started smoking cigarettes regularly? $\qquad$ <br> c. How many yenrs did you smoke cigarettes? $\qquad$ <br> d. How long ago did you stop smoking cigarettes? $\qquad$ <br> e. What was the maximom number of cigarettes you regularly amoked each day when you were a smoker? <br> (1) $\square$ Smoked once in a while, not every day <br> (2) $\square$ Less than 10 cigarettes ( $1 / 2$ pack) <br> (3) $\square$ Between 10 and 20 cigarettes ( $2 / 2-1$ pack) <br> (4) $\square$ Between 21 and 40 cigarettes ( $1-2$ packs) <br> (5) $\square$ Over 40 efgarettes (over 2 packs) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | A. Have you ever moked any cieare? <br> 1. $\square$ No (Ekip to Section III - Pipe smaking) <br> 2. $\square$ Yes (Answer question below) <br> B. Do you moke my cient at the present time? <br> 1. $\square$ Yes (Anawer Guestions below) <br> a. How many cigars do you smoke a day on the average? <br> (1) $\square$ Enoke once in a wile, not every day <br> (2) $\square 1$ or 2 cigars a day <br> (3) $\square 3$ or 4 cigars a day <br> (4) $\square 5$ to 8 cigars a day <br> (5) $\square 9$ or more cigars a day <br> b. Did you ever regularly smoke more then this mannt each day? <br> (1) $\square$ No <br> (2) $\square$ Yes: That was the maximum number of eigars you regularly smoked each day? $\qquad$ <br> c. How old were you then you started swoking cigars regularly? $\qquad$ <br> d. How many years have you been smoking cigars? | 2. No (Answer questions below) <br> a. During your entire life have you smoked ds many ms 50 to 75 cicars? <br> (1) $\square$ Yes <br> (2) $\square$ No (Skip to Section III) <br> b. How old were you when you started smoking cigars regularly? $\qquad$ <br> c. How many years did you smoke cigars? $\qquad$ <br> d. How long ago did you stod smoking cicars? $\qquad$ <br> e. What was the maximen numer of cigars you regularly smoked each day when you were a smoker? <br> (1) $\square$ Smoked once in a wille, not every day <br> (2) $\square 1$ or 2 cigars a day <br> (3) $\square 3$ or 4 cigars a day <br> (4) $\square 5$ to 8 cigars a day <br> (5) $\square$ 9 or more cigars a day |
| EECTION III <br> PIPE SMOKINE <br> (Answer all applicable quegtions in this Section) <br> You should have at least one box checked in Bections I, II, and III. | A. Heve you ever moked a plpe? <br> 1. No (Do not answer any more questions) <br> 2. Yes (Answer question below) <br> B. Do you moke a pipe nt the pressent time? <br> 1. Ye: (Answar questions below) <br> E. How meny pipefuls do you smoke a day on the average? <br> (1) swoke once in a while, not every day <br> (2) Less than 5 pipefuls <br> (3) Between 5 and 9 pipefuls <br> (4) Between 10 and 19 pipefuls <br> (5) $\square$ 20 or more pipefuis <br> b. Did you ever regularly smoke more than this amount each day? <br> (1) No <br> (2) Yes: What wrs the maximum number of pipefuls you regularly suoked each day? $\qquad$ <br> c. How old were you when you started smoking a Dipe regularly? $\qquad$ <br> d. How many years have you been smoking a pipe? | 2. No (Answer questions below) <br> a. During your entire life, have you suoked as many as 3 to 5 packages of pipe tobacco? <br> (1) $\square$ Yes <br> (2) No (End of interview) <br> b. How old were you when you started smoking a pipe regularly? $\qquad$ <br> c. How many years did you smoke a pipe? $\qquad$ <br> d. How lang ago did you stop smoking a plpe? $\qquad$ <br> e. What was the maximum number of pipefuls you regalarly smoked each day when you were a smoker? <br> (1) $\square$ swoked once in a while, not every day <br> (2) Less than 5 pipefuls <br> (3) $\square$ Between 5 and 9 pipeíuls <br> (4) $\square$ Between 10 and 19 pipefuls <br> (5) $\square$ 20 or more pipefuls |

$\qquad$ Line No. of person $\qquad$ Line No. of respondent

## 1966 SURVEY


$\qquad$

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[^0]:    U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE Public Health Service Health Services and Mental Health Administration

[^1]:    ${ }^{1}$ Haenszel, W.; Shimkin, M. B.; and Miller, H. P.: Tobacco smoking patterns in the United States. Public Health Monograph Number 45. PHS Pub. No. 463. Public Health Scrvice. Washington. U.S. Government Printing Office, 1956.

[^2]:    ${ }^{2}$ For definitions relating to smoking habits, see appendix II.

[^3]:    ${ }^{1}$ Persons for whom, smoking status was unknown (shown in tables 1 and 2) have been allocated to categories in accordance with the distribution of persons of known smoking status.

[^4]:    ${ }^{1}$ Excluding persons for whom type of respondent was unknown.
    ${ }^{2}$ Includes persons of unknown smoking status.
    ${ }^{3}$ Includes persons whose current daily smoking rates are unknown.

[^5]:    ${ }^{1}$ Data for 1966 includes persons whose current daily smoking rates are unknown.

[^6]:    'Data for 1966 includes persons whose current daily smoking rates are unknown.

[^7]:    NOTE: Excluded are persons for whom type of respondent was unknown.

[^8]:    ${ }^{1}$ Includes persons of unknown smoking status.
    Includes persons whose current daily smoking rates are unknown.
    NOTE: Excluded are persons for whom type of respondent was unknow.

[^9]:    ${ }^{1}$ Data for 1966 includes persons of unknown smoking status and persons whose current smoking rates are unknown.

[^10]:    ${ }^{1}$ Data for 1966 includes persons whose current daily smoking rates are unknown.

[^11]:    ${ }^{1}$ Includes persons whose current daily smoking rates are unknown.

[^12]:    ${ }^{1}$ For ages under 35, data are adjusted by usual actuarial procedures to take account of population not exposed to risk for entire age span covered.

[^13]:    ${ }^{1}$ Includes persons for whom maximum rate was unknown.

[^14]:    ${ }^{1}$ Includes persons for whom maximum rate was unknown.

[^15]:    ${ }^{1}$ Includes persons for whom maximum rate was unknown.

[^16]:    ${ }^{1}$ Includes persons for whom maximum rate was unknown.

