

TOBACCO USE SUPPLEMENT

CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY

Overview

The TUS-CPS is a survey of tobacco use co-sponsored by NCI and CDC. It has been administered as part of the Current Population Survey since 1992-1993. The CPS is a continuing monthly survey conducted by the Census Bureau for the Bureau of Labor Statistics. It collects information on occupations, employment activities, economic status, and demographic characteristics. From time to time, the CPS includes questions about other issues, such as health, education, and income. The TUS is an example of these additional questions.

The TUS-CPS is a key source of national, state, and sub-state level data on smoking and other tobacco use in US households. It provides data on a nationally representative sample of about 240,000 civilian, non-institutionalized individuals ages 15 years and older. About 75% of respondents complete the survey by telephone; the remainder complete it in person. The TUS-CPS has been translated into Spanish and several Asian languages, including Chinese and Korean. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has cosponsored the TUS-CPS with NCI since 2001-2002.

TUS-CPS is a unique research resource. It can be used to...

- ❖ Track trends in tobacco use over time
- ❖ Evaluate tobacco control programs

- ❖ Monitor progress in tobacco control programs, including both formal workplace and home restrictions on smoking, and doctor/dentist advice to stop smoking
- ❖ Analyze economic aspects of tobacco use in conjunction with the CPS' detailed occupational and economic data and other CPS supplements, such as Internet and Computer Use, Food Security, and American Time Use Supplements

Because of the large sample size for most survey items, analyses can be done at either the national or state levels, and in some cases, for areas smaller than the state level.

What topics are covered on the TUS-CPS questionnaire?

- ❖ Cigarette smoking prevalence
- ❖ Smoking history
- ❖ Current and past cigarette consumption
- ❖ Quit attempts and intentions to quit
- ❖ Medical and dental advice to quit smoking
- ❖ Cigar, pipe, chewing tobacco, and snuff use
- ❖ Workplace smoking policies
- ❖ Smoking rules in the home
- ❖ Attitudes toward smoking in public places
- ❖ Opinions about youth access to tobacco
- ❖ Attitudes toward tobacco advertising and promotion

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Is the TUS-CPS questionnaire always the same?

It generally covers the same topics but recent versions have varied somewhat. For example, the 2000 TUS-CPS questionnaire was an abbreviated version with several items measuring tobacco use prevalence (cigarettes, cigars, pipes, chewing tobacco, and snuff).

The 2003 TUS-CPS: A special focus on tobacco cessation

In 2003, the Census Bureau fielded a Special Topics questionnaire oriented toward tobacco cessation. The instrument covered a number of key issues related to cigarettes and other tobacco products:

- ❖ Respondents' personal history of quit attempts over the preceding 12 months;
- ❖ Level of nicotine addiction, and the nature of the methods, products, and treatment information that respondents have used in attempting to quit;
- ❖ Information concerning the types of cigarette and any new harm reduction products used; and
- ❖ Cost of last pack/carton of cigarettes purchased and in which state purchased.

What are NCI's future plans for the TUS-CPS?

Over the next 10 years, NCI plans to conduct the TUS-CPS triennially, alternating between a Core questionnaire intended for monitoring purposes (similar to the questionnaire used throughout the 1990s) and more

specific Special Topics questionnaires that target tobacco-related issues of particular interest to researchers. NCI and CDC will be co-sponsoring the supplements.

For More Information

- ❖ For information on TUS-CPS, visit <http://riskfactor.cancer.gov/studies/tus-cps>
- ❖ To obtain TUS-CPS data, documentation, and questionnaires, visit <http://riskfactor.cancer.gov/studies/tus-cps/info.html>
- ❖ For more on the CPS, visit www.bls.census.gov/cps/cpsmain.htm
- ❖ For information about tobacco use research, visit <http://riskfactor.cancer.gov/areas/tobacco>, <http://cancercontrol.cancer.gov/tcrb>, and www.cancer.gov/cancertopics/tobacco.
- ❖ For information about cancer risk factor monitoring and methods research, visit NCI's Risk Factor Monitoring and Methods Branch website at <http://riskfactor.cancer.gov>
- ❖ For information about other research conducted by NCI's Applied Research Program, visit <http://appliedresearch.cancer.gov>