

## Section Two: Data and Prevalence

The FrameWorks Institute has conducted extensive research on why and how tobacco-related inequities exist and persist. It recommends focusing on the mechanisms that drive disparities rather than prevalence and uneven rates of tobacco use. Some of these drivers include:

- The tobacco industry pressures some groups with tailored marketing tactics
- Some Americans are protected from secondhand smoke while others are not
- Corporate marketers use flavors to entice specific groups to try tobacco products
- Access to treatment for tobacco-related health issues varies widely by population, geography and other variables
- Discrimination increases stress, driving higher rates of tobacco use for some groups<sup>18</sup>

Prevalence data, however, is helpful for establishing baseline information and for assessing the populations most impacted in order to identify the potential driver(s) most likely to drive improvement. Below are 16 specific populations identified as those with higher incidence of tobacco use or who encounter barriers to treatment or cessation in Pennsylvania. Available data for each population are noted in Table 2 below. Recognizing the challenges of obtaining or finding accurate and current information, data sources vary; reference the endnotes for information on the source of the data.

**Table 2: Tobacco Prevalence Data**

Population*	Prevalence of Tobacco Use (national data unless otherwise indicated)
African American/Black	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 19.5% report consumption of cigarettes, cigars, or smokeless tobacco (2016)<sup>19</sup></li> <li>• The rate of smoking in Pennsylvania for Black, non-Hispanic adults was 24% (2018)<sup>20</sup></li> </ul>
Asian American/ Native Hawaiian/ Pacific islander	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chinese = 7.6% report consumption of cigarettes, cigars, or smokeless tobacco</li> <li>• Asian Indian = 7.6% report consumption of cigarettes, cigars, or smokeless tobacco</li> <li>• Japanese = 10.2% report consumption of cigarettes, cigars, or smokeless tobacco</li> <li>• Filipino = 12.6% report consumption of cigarettes, cigars, or smokeless tobacco</li> <li>• Vietnamese = 16.3% report consumption of cigarettes, cigars, or smokeless tobacco</li> <li>• Korean = 20.0% report consumption of cigarettes, cigars, or smokeless tobacco (2016)<sup>21</sup></li> <li>• 9.5% of adult (18+) Asian/Pacific Islanders in Pennsylvania smoke cigarettes (2018)<sup>22</sup></li> </ul>

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Population*	Prevalence of Tobacco Use (national data unless otherwise indicated)
Behavioral Health (Mental Health, Substance Use Disorder, Opioid Use Disorder)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 36% of individuals with mental illness smoke cigarettes (2013)<sup>23</sup></li> <li>• In Pennsylvania, 37% of adults reporting poor mental health are current smokers<sup>24</sup></li> <li>• Alcohol use disorder = 34%-80% smoke cigarettes (2019)<sup>25</sup></li> <li>• Other substance use disorders = 49%-98% smoke cigarettes (2019)<sup>26</sup></li> <li>• Opioid use disorder = 95% smoke cigarettes (2019)<sup>27</sup></li> </ul>
Chronic Disease (including Cancer, Diabetes, Heart Disease, HIV, Respiratory Disease)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cancer = 13.16% smoke cigarettes (2020)<sup>28</sup> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Smoking related cancer survivors = 19.78% smoke cigarettes (2020)<sup>29</sup></li> <li>◦ Non-smoking related cancer survivors = 10.63% smoke cigarettes (2020)<sup>30</sup></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Diabetes = N/A</li> <li>• Heart disease = N/A</li> <li>• HIV = 37.9% smoke cigarettes (2014)<sup>31</sup></li> <li>• Respiratory diseases = N/A</li> </ul>
Individuals with Disabilities	19.2% <sup>32</sup> -27.8% smoke cigarettes (2019)
Hispanic/Latinx	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Puerto Rican = 28.5% smoke cigarettes</li> <li>• Cuban = 19.8% smoke cigarettes</li> <li>• Mexican = 19.1% smoke cigarettes</li> <li>• Central or South American = 15.6% smoke cigarettes (2016)<sup>34</sup></li> <li>• Pennsylvania Hispanic smoking prevalence = 19.5% (2018)<sup>35</sup></li> </ul>
Homeless	Approximately three quarters of homeless adults are cigarette smokers <sup>36</sup>
LGBTQ (Sexual and Gender Minorities)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 20.5% smoke cigarettes (2016)<sup>37</sup></li> <li>• The rate of smoking in Pennsylvania for lesbian, gay, or bisexual adults was 40% (2018)<sup>38</sup></li> </ul>
Low Socioeconomic Status	<p>Every Day and Some Day Cigarette Use by Annual Household Income (2018):<sup>39</sup></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• &lt;\$35,000 – 21.3%</li> <li>• \$35,000 - \$74,999 – 14.9%</li> <li>• \$75,000 – \$99,999 – 13.3%</li> <li>• &gt; \$100,000 – 7.3%</li> </ul>

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Military and Veterans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Veterans: 14.6% - current smokers (2018)<sup>40</sup></li> <li>Current Military: 14% - current smokers (2015)<sup>41</sup></li> </ul>
Pregnant and Postpartum Women	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7.2% of women who gave birth smoked cigarettes during pregnancy (2016)<sup>42</sup></li> <li>In Pennsylvania it was 11.5% (2016)<sup>43</sup></li> </ul>
Older Adults	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8.4% of adults aged 65 years and older smoke cigarettes (2018)<sup>44</sup></li> <li>10% of Pennsylvanians age 65 and older are current cigarette smokers, compared to 19% overall; 20% currently use e-cigarettes (2017)<sup>45</sup></li> </ul>
Justice-Involved Individuals	70%-80% smoking rate (2010) <sup>46</sup>
Rural	22.5% smoke cigarettes (2017) <sup>47</sup>
Smokeless Tobacco Users	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3.4% of adults aged 18 years and older use smokeless tobacco (2016)<sup>48</sup></li> <li>4% of adults in Pennsylvania used smokeless tobacco (2017)<sup>49</sup></li> </ul>
Youth & Young Adult Nicotine Consumption and Tobacco Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>27.5% of U.S. high school students and 10.5% of middle school students currently use e-cigarettes (2019)<sup>50</sup></li> <li>5.8% of high school students report smoking conventional cigarettes (2019)<sup>51</sup></li> <li>In Pennsylvania 3.5% of students from 6th–12th grade report smoking conventional cigarettes, ranging from 0.5% for 6th graders to 7.5% for 12th graders (2019)<sup>52</sup></li> <li>In Pennsylvania, 19.0% report using e-cigarettes, ranging from 3.8% for 6th graders to 33.1% for 12th graders (2019)<sup>53</sup></li> </ul>

\* Within this document the nomenclature used for the target population reflects the original source material.

Pennsylvania Department of Health Regional Contractors have worked with populations experiencing tobacco-related disparities and are thus sources of local data and experience. Table 3 highlights each region and the populations with whom they worked during State Fiscal Year 2017-2018.

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**Table 3: Target Populations Served by Pennsylvania Department of Health Regional Contractors**

Region	Asian/Pacific Islanders	African Americans	Hispanic/Latinos	Native Americans	Rural populations	Amish	LGBTQ Populations	Pregnant women	Lower income, low SES, and uninsured	People with behavioral health concerns	Incarcerated individuals
Allegheny		X					X	X	X	X	
North Central			X		X		X	X	X	X	
Northeast			X		X		X	X	X	X	
Northwest	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Philadelphia	X	X	X				X	X	X	X	X
South Central			X		X		X	X	X	X	
Southeast		X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X
Southwest		X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X

Other sources of information include hospital Community Health Needs Assessments (CHNA), other Pennsylvania Department of Health data or work done by advocates of disparate populations.