



Lebanon STEPS Survey 2017

Tobacco Fact Sheet – Syrians

The WHO STEPwise approach to surveillance (STEPS) is a simple, standardized method for collecting, analysing and disseminating data on noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) and risk factors. Data are collected on the established risk factors and NCD conditions that determine the major NCD burden, including tobacco use, harmful use of alcohol, unhealthy diet, insufficient physical activity, overweight and obesity, raised blood pressure, raised blood glucose, and abnormal blood lipids. Data from STEPS surveys can be used by countries to help monitor progress in meeting the global voluntary targets related to specific risk factors such as tobacco, alcohol, diet and physical inactivity. The tobacco indicators from STEPS can be used to evaluate and monitor existing tobacco-control policies and programs.*

The STEPS survey on noncommunicable disease (NCD) risk factors in Lebanon was carried out from December 2016 to April 2017. The STEPS survey in Lebanon was a population-based survey of adults aged 18-69. A two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for that age range in Lebanon. Survey information was collected electronically using handheld devices. A total of 2134 Syrian adults participated in the Lebanon STEPS survey. The overall response rate was 74.1%.

Highlights

TOBACCO USE

- 54.9% of men, 13.3% of women, and 31.3% overall were current smokers of tobacco.
- 1.2% of men, 0.3% of women, and 0.7% overall were current users of smokeless tobacco.

CESSATION

- 3 in 10 current smokers tried to stop smoking in the last 12 months.
- 4 in 10 current smokers were advised by a health care provider to stop smoking in the last 12 months

SECONDHAND SMOKE

- 48.6% of adults were exposed to tobacco smoke at the workplace.
- 51.9% of adults were exposed to tobacco smoke at home.

MEDIA

- 6 in 10 adults noticed anti-cigarette smoking information on the television or radio.
- 6 in 10 current smokers thought about quitting because of warning labels on cigarette packages.
- 2 in 10 adults noticed cigarette marketing in stores where cigarettes are sold.
- 1 in 10 adults noticed cigarette promotions.

Data presented in this fact sheet relate only to select tobacco indicators. Additional information on tobacco or other NCD risk factors from the survey is available from sources listed below.

For additional information, please contact:
WHO STEPS Team [Steps@who.int]
STEPS country focal point [name, email addresses]
Website url if appropriate

*Tobacco questions are drawn from the Tobacco Questions for Surveys (TQS)
<http://www.who.int/tobacco/publications/surveillance/tqs/en/>

Results for adults aged 18-69 years	Overall % (95% CI)	Males % (95% CI)	Females % (95% CI)
Tobacco Use			
Current tobacco users (smoked and/or smokeless)¹			
Current tobacco users	31.2% (28.0 – 34.4)	55.2% (50.5 – 60.0)	13.3% (9.9 – 16.8)
Current daily tobacco users	26.3% (23.3 – 29.2)	48.6% (43.5 – 53.6)	9.6% (7.5 – 11.8)
Current tobacco smokers			
Current tobacco smokers	31.1% (27.9 – 34.3)	54.9% (50.1 – 59.7)	13.3% (9.8 – 16.7)
Current cigarette smokers ²	21.4% (18.7 – 24.1)	41.3% (36.2 – 46.5)	8.0% (5.7 – 10.3)
Current daily tobacco smokers	26.1% (23.2 – 29.1)	48.3% (43.2 – 53.4)	9.6% (7.5 – 11.7)
Current daily cigarette smokers	19.9% (17.2 – 22.7)	38.7% (33.1 – 44.4)	7.3% (5.2 – 9.4)
Average age started tobacco smoking (years)	19.3 (18.6 – 20.0)	18.1 (17.6 – 18.7)	23.4 (21.6 – 25.1)
Average number of cigarettes smoked per day (among daily cigarette smokers)	23.4 (20.3 – 26.6)	26.1 (22.3 – 29.8)	14.0 (10.8 – 17.3)
Current smokeless tobacco users			
Current smokeless tobacco users	0.7% (0.2 – 1.2)	1.2% (0.2 – 2.3)	0.3% (0.0 – 0.7)
Current daily smokeless tobacco users	0.3% (0.0 – 0.6)	0.6% (0.0 – 1.3)	0.1% (0.0 – 0.3)
Current non-users (smoked and/or smokeless)¹			
Former tobacco users ³	2.5% (1.7 – 3.3)	3.4% (2.2 – 4.6)	1.9% (0.9 – 2.8)
Former tobacco smokers ⁴	2.3% (1.5 – 3.1)	3.2% (2.0 – 4.4)	1.7% (0.7 – 2.6)
Never users	66.2% (63.0 – 69.5)	41.3% (36.9 – 45.8)	84.8% (81.1 – 88.5)
Exposure to Second-hand smoke			
Adults exposed to second-hand smoke at home [*]	51.9% (46.5 – 57.3)	60.4% (55.0 – 65.7)	45.7% (39.1 – 52.2)
Adults exposed to second-hand smoke in the closed areas in their workplace [*]	48.6% (41.2 – 55.9)	60.6% (54.0 – 67.2)	39.8% (31.5 – 48.1)
Tobacco Cessation			
Current smokers who tried to stop smoking in past 12 months	25.2% (19.3 – 31.0)	24.4% (17.8 – 30.9)	27.6% (18.7 – 36.6)
Current smokers advised by a health care provider to stop smoking in past 12 months ⁵	39.6% (32.0 – 47.2)	42.6% (33.6 – 51.5)	31.0% (22.2 – 39.8)
Health Warnings			
Current smokers who thought about quitting because of a warning label [*]	57.4% (49.1 – 65.7)	57.6% (48.7 – 66.6)	56.7% (39.6 – 73.8)
Adults who noticed anti-cigarette smoking information on the television or radio [*]	56.5% (50.0 – 63.0)	58.9% (52.1 – 65.7)	54.5% (46.8 – 62.3)
Adults who noticed anti-cigarette smoking information in newspapers or magazines [*]	29.4% (22.7 – 36.0)	32.5% (24.2 – 40.8)	26.8% (19.2 – 34.4)
Tobacco Advertisement and Promotion			
Adults who noticed cigarette marketing in stores where cigarettes are sold [*]	20.0% (15.5 – 24.5)	27.2% (20.6 – 33.8)	14.3% (10.4 – 18.1)
Adults who noticed any cigarette promotions [*]	5.9% (3.0 – 8.8)	6.5% (3.5 – 9.4)	5.5% (1.7 – 9.2)
Economics			
Local Currency [Lebanese Pound]			
Cost of 100 packs of manufactured cigarettes as a percentage of per capita Gross Domestic Product (GDP) ⁶	1.7 (1.4 – 2.0)		

1 Current use refers to daily and less than daily use. 2 Includes manufactured cigarettes and hand-rolled cigarettes. Adapted for other products as per country situation. 3 Current non-users. 4 Current non-smokers. 5 Among those who visited a health care provider in past 12 months. 6 [Source and year for per capita GDP]. * During the past 30 days. † Promotions include free cigarette sample, cigarettes at sale prices, coupons for cigarettes, free gifts upon purchase of cigarettes, clothing or other items with cigarette brand name or logo and cigarette promotions in mail. Adults refer to persons age 18-69 years. Data have been weighted to be nationally representative of all men and women age 18-69 years. Technical assistance for the survey was provided by the World Health Organization (WHO). This document has been produced with a partial grant from the CDC Foundation, with financial support from the Bloomberg Initiative to Reduce Tobacco Use, a program of Bloomberg Philanthropies. The contents of this document are the sole responsibility of the authors and can under no circumstances be regarded to reflect the positions of the CDC Foundation.