



California Tobacco-Related Disparity Indicators Dashboard: Technical Documentation

Introduction

First introduced in the California Tobacco Facts and Figures 2021 report, the [California Tobacco Prevention Program](#) tracks 17 tobacco-related disparity indicators to highlight California's progress in accelerating the decline in tobacco-related disparities since the implementation of Proposition 56 in 2016. This dashboard is an extension of data found in the Facts and Figures 2021 report, providing data updates for each of the 17 indicators. The main data sources used for this dashboard includes the [California Health Interview Survey \(CHIS\)](#), the [California Youth Tobacco Survey \(CYTS\)](#), and the [Policy Evaluation Tracking System \(PETS\)](#).

Indicator Definitions

This section details the definition used for each indicator from the three main data sources. When there are definitional changes, caution should be utilized in trending data (e.g., comparing multiple years of data). In addition, caution should be utilized when trending data for CHIS indicators due to a change in data collection methodology in 2019 and for CYTS indicators due to a change in survey methodology in 2022.

Indicator 1. Current Tobacco Product Use, Adult (Age 18–64)

Current tobacco product use was established from the following CHIS questions:

- **2015–16 to 2017–18:**
 - Do you now smoke cigarettes every day, some days, or not at all?
 - Every day
 - Some days
 - During the past 30 days, how many days did you use electronic cigarettes? 1–30 days
- **2019–20 to the most recent data available:**
 - Do you now smoke cigarettes every day, some days, or not at all?
 - Every day
 - Some days
 - In the past 30 days, on how many days did you use an e-cigarette or other electronic vaping product? 1–30 days

- During the past 30 days, on how many days did you smoke big cigars?
 - 1–2 days
 - 3–5 days
 - 6–9 days
 - 10–19 days
 - 20–29 days
 - 30 days
- During the past 30 days, on how many days did you use a hookah water pipe?
 - 1–2 days
 - 3–5 days
 - 6–9 days
 - 10–19 days
 - 20–29 days
 - 30 days
- During the past 30 days, on how many days did you smoke cigarillos, or little cigars?
 - 1–2 days
 - 3–5 days
 - 6–9 days
 - 10–19 days
 - 20–29 days
 - 30 days
- During the past 30 days, on how many days did you use chewing tobacco, snuff, or snus?
 - 1–2 days
 - 3–5 days
 - 6–9 days
 - 10–19 days
 - 20–29 days
 - 30 days

Indicator 2. Current Cigarette Use, Adult (Age 18+)

Current cigarette use was established from the following CHIS question:

- **2015–16 to the most recent data available:** Do you now smoke cigarettes every day, some days, or not at all?
 - Every day
 - Some days

Indicator 3. Current Vape Use, Adult (Age 18–64)

Current vape use was established from the following CHIS questions:

- **2015–16 to 2017–18:** During the past 30 days, how many days did you use electronic cigarettes? 1–30 days
- **2019–20 to the most recent data available:** In the past 30 days, on how many days did you use an e-cigarette or other electronic vaping product? 1–30 days

Indicator 4. Current Tobacco Product Use, Youth (10th and 12th Grade)

Current tobacco product use was established from the following CYTS questions:

- **2016:** Have you used any of the following products... In the last 30 days?
 - Cigarettes
 - Little cigars or cigarillos
 - Kreteks (clove cigars)
 - Big cigars
 - Hookah
 - E-cigarettes
 - Smokeless tobacco (chew, dip, snuff, or snus)
- **2018:**
 - Have you smoked cigarettes in the last 30 days? Yes
 - Have you smoked big cigars in the last 30 days? Yes
 - Have you used e-cigarettes in the last 30 days? Yes
 - Have you used hookah (water pipe) in the last 30 days? Yes
 - Have you smoked little cigars or cigarillos in the last 30 days? Yes
 - Have you used smokeless tobacco in the last 30 days? Yes

- **2020:**
 - Have you smoked cigarettes in the last 30 days? Yes
 - Have you smoked big cigars in the last 30 days? Yes
 - Which of the following have you vaped in the last 30 days? Yes
 - In the last 30 days when you used a hookah pen, what was in it?
 - Nicotine (with or without flavor)
 - Just flavoring (without nicotine, marijuana, or another drug)
 - Make your best guess. What do you think was in it?
 - Nicotine (with or without flavor)
 - Just flavoring (without nicotine, marijuana, or another drug)
 - Have you used a heat-not-burn tobacco product in the last 30 days? Yes
 - Have you smoked hookah water pipe in the last 30 days? Yes
 - Have you smoked little cigars or cigarillos in the last 30 days? Yes
 - Have you used smokeless tobacco in the last 30 days? Yes
- **2022 to the most recent data available:**
 - Have you smoked cigarettes in the last 30 days? Yes
 - Have you smoked big cigars in the last 30 days? Yes
 - Have you vaped in the last 30 days? Yes
 - Have you smoked little cigars or cigarillos in the last 30 days? Yes
 - Which of the following tobacco products have you used in the last 30 days?
 - Chewing tobacco, snuff, snus, dip, or dissolvable tobacco
 - Heated tobacco / Heat-not-burn products like IQOS
 - Hookah, waterpipe, or shisha
 - Nicotine pouches like Zyn, On, or Velo

Indicator 5. Current Cigarette Use, Youth (10th and 12th Grade)

Current cigarette use was established from the following CYTS questions:

- **2016:** Have you used any of the following products... In the last 30 days?
Cigarettes
- **2018 to the most recent data available:** Have you smoked cigarettes in the last 30 days? Yes

Indicator 6. Current Vape Use, Youth (10th and 12th Grade)

Current vape use was established from the following CYTS questions:

- **2016:** Have you used any of the following products... In the last 30 days?
E-cigarettes
- **2018:** Have you used e-cigarettes in the last 30 days? Yes
- **2020:**
 - Which of the following have you vaped in the last 30 days?
 - Nicotine (with or without flavor)
 - Just flavoring (without nicotine, marijuana, or another drug)
 - In the last 30 days when you used a hookah pen, what was in it?
 - Nicotine (with or without flavor)
 - Just flavoring (without nicotine, marijuana, or another drug)
 - Make your best guess. What do you think was in it?
 - Nicotine (with or without flavor)
 - Just flavoring (without nicotine, marijuana, or another drug)
- **2022 to the most recent data available:** Have you vaped in the last 30 days?
Yes

Indicator 7. Recent Secondhand Tobacco Smoke or Vape Exposure, Adult (Age 18+)

Recent secondhand smoke or vape exposure were established from the following CHIS questions:

- **2015–16 to 2016–17:** Data not available.
- **2019–20:** In the last two weeks, have you ever been exposed to secondhand tobacco smoke or e-cigarette vapor in California? Yes
- **2021–22 to the most recent data available:** During the past year, when has someone else smoked tobacco or vaped around you in California?
 - In the past week
 - In the past two weeks

Indicator 8. Recent Indoor Secondhand Cigarette or Little Cigar/Cigarillo Smoke Exposure, Youth (10th and 12th Grade)

Recent indoor secondhand smoke exposure was established from the following CYTS questions:

- **2016 to 2018:** Data not available.
- **2020:**
 - In the last 2 weeks, were you in a car when someone was smoking a cigarette, little cigar, or cigarillo? Yes
 - In the last 2 weeks, were you in a room when someone was smoking a cigarette, little cigar, or cigarillo? Yes
- **2022 to the most recent data available:** In the last 2 weeks, were you in a car or room when someone was smoking a cigarette, little cigar, or cigarillo? Yes

Indicator 9. Recent Indoor Secondhand Vape Exposure, Youth (10th and 12th Grade)

Recent indoor secondhand vape exposure was established from the following CYTS questions:

- **2016:** Data not available.
- **2020:**
 - In the last 2 weeks, were you in a car when someone was using a vape? Yes
 - In the last 2 weeks, were you in a room when someone was using a vape? Yes
- **2022 to the most recent data available:** In the last 2 weeks, were you in a car or room when someone was using a vape? Yes

Indicator 10. Cigarette Quit Attempt, Adult (Age 18+)

Cigarette quit attempt was established from the following CHIS question:

- **2015–16 to the most recent data available:** During the past 12 months, have you stopped smoking for one day or longer because you were trying to quit smoking? Yes

Indicator 11. Cigarette Quit Intent, Adult (Age 18+)

Cigarette quit intent was established from the following CHIS question:

- **2015–16 to the most recent data available:** Are you thinking about quitting smoking in the next six months? Yes

Indicator 12. Vape Quit Attempt, Youth (10th and 12th Grade)

Vape quit attempt was established from the following CYTS questions:

- **2016:** Data not available.
- **2018:** In the last 12 months, did you try to quit using e-cigarettes? Yes, I tried to quit in the last 12 months
- **2020:** In the last 12 months, did you try to...?
 - Quit using vapes with nicotine (with or without flavor)
 - Quit using vapes with just flavoring
 - Quit using hookah pens
- **2022 to the most recent data available:** Which products have you tried to completely stop using in the past 12 months? Vapes

Indicator 13. Vape Quit Intent, Youth (10th and 12th Grade)

Vape quit intent was established from the following CYTS questions:

- **2016:** Data not available.
- **2018:** Do you plan to quit using e-cigarettes?
- **2020:**
 - Do you plan to quit using vapes with nicotine (with or without flavor)?
 - I already quit
 - Yes, I plan to quit in the next month
 - Do you plan to quit using vapes with just flavoring (without nicotine, marijuana, or another drug)?
 - I already quit
 - Yes, I plan to quit in the next month
 - Do you plan to quit using hookah pens?
 - I already quit
 - Yes, I plan to quit in the next month

- **2022 to the most recent data available:** Do you plan to quit using any of the following products in the next 30 days? Vapes

Indicator 14. Local Multi-Unit Housing Policy Population Coverage

Includes California jurisdictions with policies that, at a minimum, regulates smoking in private units of multi-unit housing as published in the [October 2024 List of California Municipalities Regulating Smoking in Multi-Unit Housing](#) and restricted to policies enacted by December 31, 2023. Population coverage is based on the policy's first enactment date.

Indicator 15. Local Secondhand Smoke Policy Population Coverage

Includes California jurisdictions with smokefree or clean air outdoor policies as published in the [October 2024 Matrix of Smokefree Outdoor Air Policies in California](#) and restricted to policies enacted by December 31, 2023. Population coverage is based on the policy's most recent enactment date due to limitations with the PETS data.

Indicator 16. Local Flavored Tobacco Sales Restriction Policy Population Coverage

Includes California jurisdictions with policies related to the sale of flavored tobacco products as published in the [October 2024 List of California Municipalities Regulating the Sale of Flavored Tobacco Products](#) and restricted to policies enacted by December 31, 2023. Population coverage is based on the policy's first enactment date.

Indicator 17. Local Tobacco Retail Sales Policy Population Coverage

Includes California jurisdictions with tobacco sales or tobacco distribution policies (i.e., no free samples, no discounts, minimum pack size, minimum price, tobacco-free pharmacies, ending the sale of vapes, or ending the sale of tobacco products) as published in the [October 2024 Matrix of Policies Regulating Tobacco Retail Sales in California](#) and restricted to policies enacted by December 31, 2023. Population coverage is based on the policy's most recent enactment date due to limitations with the PETS data.

California Health Interview Survey (CHIS)

Demographic Definitions

This section details the definition used for demographic analysis for indicators using data from the [California Health Interview Survey \(CHIS\)](#). When there are definitional changes, caution should be utilized in trending data (e.g., comparing multiple years of data). In addition, caution should be utilized when trending data for CHIS indicators due to a change in data collection methodology in 2019.

Age

Age was recoded from a CHIS-created variable based on the respondent's self-reported age or date of birth.

Education

Education was recoded from a CHIS-created variable based on the respondent's self-reported highest education completed.

Gender

Gender was established from a CHIS-created variable based on the respondent's self-reported gender.

LGBTQ+ Identity

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning, and Plus (LGBTQ+) identity was established from two CHIS-created variables based on the respondent's sex assigned at birth, current gender identity, and sexual orientation. Respondents reporting their gender identity as transgender or gender expansive, or their sexual orientation as gay, lesbian, bisexual, pansexual, don't know, or another sexual orientation are classified as LGBTQ+.

Medi-Cal Coverage

Medi-Cal coverage was established from a CHIS-created variable based on the respondent's self-reported health insurance coverage. Respondents who self-reported receiving Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), California Work Opportunities and Responsibilities to Kids (CalWORKs), or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) are also classified as covered by Medi-Cal.

Mental and Emotional Health

Mental and emotional health was established from a CHIS-created variable evaluating whether the respondent was likely to have serious psychological distress in the past month, based on respondent's answer from the Kessler 6-Item Psychological Distress Scale questionnaire.

Poverty Level

Poverty level was recoded from a CHIS-created variable based on the respondent's self-reported household income and household size.

Race/Ethnicity

Race/ethnicity was established from a CHIS-created variable based on the respondent's self-reported Hispanic or Latino ethnicity and race. Respondents who reported any Hispanic or Latino ethnicity are classified as Hispanic or Latino. Respondents who reported not being Hispanic or Latino and reported multiple races are classified as Two or more races, non-Hispanic. All other race categories are single-race non-Hispanic or Latino unless stated otherwise.

Race/Ethnicity: American Indian or Alaska Native

American Indian or Alaska Native race was established from a CHIS-created variable based on the respondent's self-reported American Indian or Alaska Native race.

Race/Ethnicity: Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander

Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander race was established from a CHIS-created variable based on the respondent's self-reported Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander race.

Urban/Rural

Urban/rural was established from a CHIS-created variable based on the respondent's zip code population density.

California Youth Tobacco Survey (CYTS)

Demographic Definitions

This section details the definition used for demographic analysis for indicators using data from the [California Youth Tobacco Survey \(CYTS\)](#). When there are definitional changes, caution should be utilized in trending data (e.g., comparing multiple years of data).

Education

Education level was established from the question: What grade are you in?

Gender

Gender was established from the questions:

- **2016 and 2018:** What is your gender?
- **2020:**
 - How do you describe yourself?
 - What sex were you assigned at birth?
- **2020 to the most recent data available:**
 - What sex were you assigned at birth, on your original birth certificate?
 - How do you describe yourself?

LGBTQ+ Identity

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning, and Plus (LGBTQ+) identity was established from the questions:

- **2018:**
 - What is your gender? I identify my gender in another way
 - Do you identify yourself as LGBTQ? Yes
- **2020:**
 - How do you describe yourself?
 - Female-to-male (FTM) / Transgender male / Trans man
 - Male-to-female (MTF) / Transgender female / Trans woman
 - Genderqueer, neither exclusively male nor female
 - Additional gender category or other
 - How do you describe yourself? Male **AND** What sex were you assigned at birth? Female

- How do you describe yourself? Female **AND** What sex were you assigned at birth? Male
- Do you consider yourself to be...?
 - Lesbian, gay, or homosexual
 - Bisexual
 - Something else
 - I don't know
- **2022 to the most recent data available:**
 - How do you describe yourself?
 - Transgender
 - Something else
 - I'm not sure yet
 - How do you describe yourself? Male **AND** What sex were you assigned at birth, on your original birth certificate? Female
 - How do you describe yourself? Female **AND** What sex were you assigned at birth, on your original birth certificate? Male
 - Which of the following best represents how you think of yourself?
 - Gay or lesbian
 - Bisexual
 - Something else
 - I'm not sure yet

Mental and Emotional Health

Mental and emotional health was established from the following question: In general, how would you rate your mental health?

Race/Ethnicity

Race/ethnicity was established based on the respondent's self-reported Hispanic or Latino ethnicity and race. Respondents who reported any Hispanic or Latino ethnicity are classified as Hispanic or Latino. Respondents who reported not being Hispanic or Latino and reported multiple races are classified as non-Hispanic--Multiple races. All other race categories are single-race non-Hispanic or Latino unless stated otherwise.

Race/Ethnicity: American Indian or Alaska Native

American Indian or Alaska Native race was established based on the respondent's self-reported American Indian or Alaska Native race.

Race/Ethnicity: Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander

Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander race was established based on the respondent's self-reported Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander race.

Urban/Rural

Urban/rural was established from a CYTS-created variable based on the respondent's school location.

Policy Evaluation Tracking System (PETS) Demographic Definitions

This section details the definition used for demographic analysis for indicators using data from [Policy Evaluation Tracking System \(PETS\)](#). Jurisdictional data from PETS were linked to population data from the U.S. Census Bureau's [American Community Survey](#) 2016–2020.

Age

Age was established from a U.S. Census Bureau summary table ([Table B01001: Sex by Age](#)) based on the respondent's self-reported age.

Education

Education was established from a U.S. Census Bureau summary table ([Table B15002: Sex by Educational Attainment for the Population 25 Years and Over](#)) based on the respondent's self-reported highest education attained.

Poverty Level

Poverty level was established from a U.S. Census Bureau summary table ([Table C17002: Ratio of Income to Poverty Level in the Past 12 Months](#)) based on the respondent's self-reported household income and household size.

Race/Ethnicity

Race/ethnicity was established from a U.S. Census Bureau summary table ([Table B03002: Hispanic or Latino Origin by Race](#)) based on the respondent's self-reported Hispanic or Latino ethnicity and race. Respondents who reported any Hispanic or Latino ethnicity are classified as Hispanic or Latino. Respondents who reported not being Hispanic or Latino and reported multiple races are classified as Not Hispanic or Latino--Two or more races. All other race categories are single-race non-Hispanic or Latino unless stated otherwise.

Race/Ethnicity: American Indian or Alaska Native

American Indian or Alaska Native race was established from a U.S. Census Bureau summary table ([Table B02010: American Indian and Alaska Native Alone or in Combination with One or More Other Races](#)) based on the respondent's self-reported American Indian or Alaska Native race.

Race/Ethnicity: Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander

Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander race was established from a U.S. Census Bureau summary table ([Table B02012: Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander Alone or in Combination with One or More Other Races](#)) based on the respondent's self-reported Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander race.

Sex

Sex was established from a U.S. Census Bureau summary table ([Table B01001: Sex by Age](#)) based on the respondent's self-reported sex.