Tobacco is one of the leading risk factors for a range of chronic health conditions, including chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), cardiovascular disease, diabetes, and cancer. Among Americans, cigarette smoking is responsible for 1 in 5 deaths. According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), during 2016, 15.5% percent of U.S. adults 18 years or older were current smokers.

In Oregon, the percentage of adults who are current smokers is around 17.1%. Smoking in Oregon has decreased from year to year. However, cigarette smoking remains high among certain groups in the population. For example, the percentage of Oregonians with disabilities who smoke is 25.6% – nearly twice as high as the percentage of Oregonians without disabilities who smoke (13.1%).

The percentage of adults with disabilities who smoke also varies across the state. Smoking is most common along the Oregon coast, in Columbia and Multnomah counties, and in central Oregon. In counties such as Douglas, Coos, Curry, and Josephine about 3 of every 10 adults with disabilities currently smoke (see Figure 1).

According to 2016 Oregon data, adults with disabilities in every age group were more likely to smoke than adults without disabilities in the same age group (see Table 1).

### Table 1: Percent of Oregon adults who smoke by Disability Status and Age Category

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disability Status</th>
<th>Age 18-24</th>
<th>25-34</th>
<th>35-44</th>
<th>45-54</th>
<th>55-64</th>
<th>65+</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Disability</td>
<td>26.7%</td>
<td>35.2%</td>
<td>36.7%</td>
<td>39.8%</td>
<td>28.6%</td>
<td>10.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Disability</td>
<td>10.8%</td>
<td>16.2%</td>
<td>14.9%</td>
<td>15.9%</td>
<td>13.0%</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

b. Disability was assessed by whether a person had answered yes to any of the five disability screening questions: visual, hearing, cognitive, mobility, independent living, and self-care disability, in the 2016 Oregon BRFSS Data.
Men with disabilities were more likely to be current smokers than women with disabilities. About 28.5% of men smoke in comparison to 23.4% of women (see Figure 2).

We found that Oregonians with disabilities are not only more likely to smoke, but they also smoke more cigarettes per day than adults without disabilities. On average Oregonians with disabilities smoke 15.7 cigarettes per day, whereas adults without disabilities smoke 13.1 cigarettes per day.

Quitting smoking lowers your risk of smoking-related conditions and may improve your quality of life. If you have thought about quitting smoking, or know of someone who would like to quit smoking, the Oregon Tobacco Quit Line offers help 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

1-800-QUIT-NOW (1-800-784-8669) or www.quitnow.net/oregon

FOR MORE OODH DATA BRIEFS, VISIT:

REFERENCES


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