

Egypt key findings

The Ministry of Health of Egypt, the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (CAPMAS) and the WHO Representative's Office in Egypt are the three national partners who collaborated in conducting the Global Adult Tobacco Survey (GATS). GATS is a standardized global survey for systematically monitoring adult tobacco use (smoked and smokeless) and tracking key tobacco control indicators. It is a nationally representative survey, using a consistent and standard protocol across countries, and enhances countries' capacity to plan, implement and evaluate tobacco control programmes. It will also assist countries to fulfil their obligations under the World Health Organization's (WHO) Framework Convention on Tobacco Control to generate comparable data within and across countries. Financial support for GATS was provided by Bloomberg Philanthropies. Technical assistance was provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Atlanta and programme support by the CDC Foundation.

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Tobacco use in Egypt

- Nearly 20% of the Egyptian population uses some form of tobacco product. Of this percentage, about 16% smoke cigarettes, 3.3% smoke *shisha* and 2.6% use smokeless (chewed) tobacco (Figure 1).
- The percentage of the population using any tobacco product increases to around 23% and nearly 26% among the productive age groups 25–44 and 45–64 years, respectively (Figure 2).
- The prevalence of using any tobacco product among all university graduates is about 16%. The percentage of using any tobacco product among those with no formal education or those with some primary level education was higher at around 21% and nearly 26%, respectively (Figure 3).
- 88% of current cigarette smokers smoke local brands.
- About 83% of current cigarette smokers buy their cigarettes from shops as opposed to kiosks, supermarkets and other points of sale.
- The average monthly expenditure on cigarettes for smokers is about 110 Egyptian pounds.
- Male cigarette smokers smoke an average of one pack a day while females smoke on average half a pack a day.

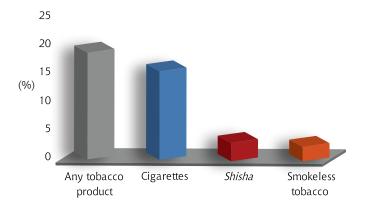


Figure 1. Percentage of tobacco use among the Egyptian population

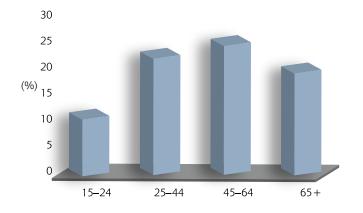


Figure 2. Percentage of the Egyptian population using any tobacco product according to age group

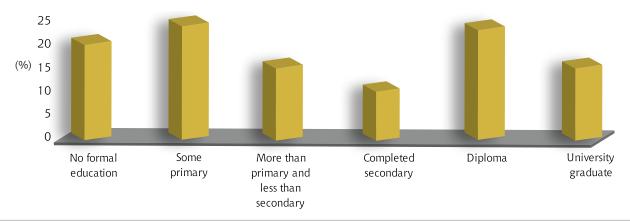


Figure 3. Percentage of the Egyptian population using any tobacco product according to education level