

5. British Columbia Aboriginal Population

5.1 Introduction

For the purposes of this report, members of the Aboriginal population are defined as anyone who considers the ethnic/cultural background of their parents or grandparents to be Aboriginal which includes Inuit, Eskimo, Metis and First Nations groups. No distinction was made between status vs. non-status, or on-reserve vs. off-reserve.

The results in this report are based on 725 telephone interviews, randomly obtained throughout the course of the survey. The margin of error for a sample size of 725 is $\pm 3.6\%$ nineteen times out of twenty. Information on age and gender proportions for the Aboriginal population were not available. Therefore, the entire provincial sample was weighted to known age and gender proportions (as per Stats Can) and then the Aboriginal sample was tabulated separately.

Comparisons between the Aboriginal population and the entire province are made throughout this report. The reader is reminded that the Aboriginal population is also included in the provincial sample; the samples are not mutually exclusive.

5.2 Tobacco Use Status of Aboriginal Population

Detailed information concerning past and present use of all forms of tobacco, by the province's Aboriginal population (aged 12+), allows for a precise determination of their tobacco use status at the time of the survey. These survey findings concerning the use of cigarettes and alternate forms of tobacco (cigars, pipe tobacco and smokeless tobacco) are presented below.

5.2.1 Cigarette Smoking Status

For cigarette smoking, eight user groups are identified: current daily; current non-daily; former daily; former non-daily; former, but less than a year; lifetime abstainer; past experimenter; and beginner (See graph).

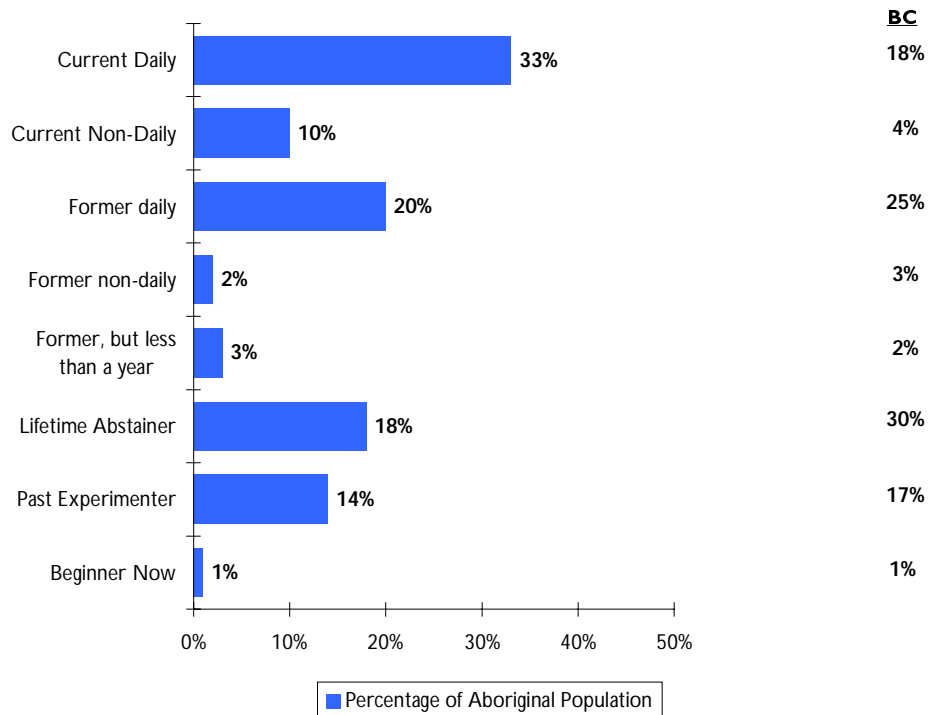
The current prevalence of cigarette smoking among the Aboriginal population (aged 12+), is 43%. Daily users predominate among current cigarette smokers at 33%, while non-daily smokers represent 10% of all residents. As shown in the graph, this prevalence rate is almost double that for all residents of the province (22%).

Former cigarette smokers comprise 25% of the Aboriginal population. This percentage includes former daily smokers (20%), former non-daily smokers (2%), and former smokers, who quit less than a year ago (3%). While percentages for former non-daily smokers and former smokers who quit less than a year ago are similar to provincial results, the Aboriginal population has fewer former daily smokers (20% vs. 25%).

By contrast, the proportion of the Aboriginal population who have never smoked cigarettes is 33%. These never users include lifetime abstainers (18%), past experimenters (14%), and beginners (1%). There are considerably fewer lifetime abstainers and slightly fewer past experimenters in the Aboriginal population compared to all residents of the province.

In sum, current cigarette smokers make up 43% of the Aboriginal population, while former smokers represent 25% and never smokers 33%. Compared to provincial results, the Aboriginal population has a much higher proportion of current cigarette smokers (43% vs. 22%), and fewer former (25% vs. 30%) or never smokers (32% vs. 48%).

Cigarette Smoking Status of the Aboriginal Population, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997



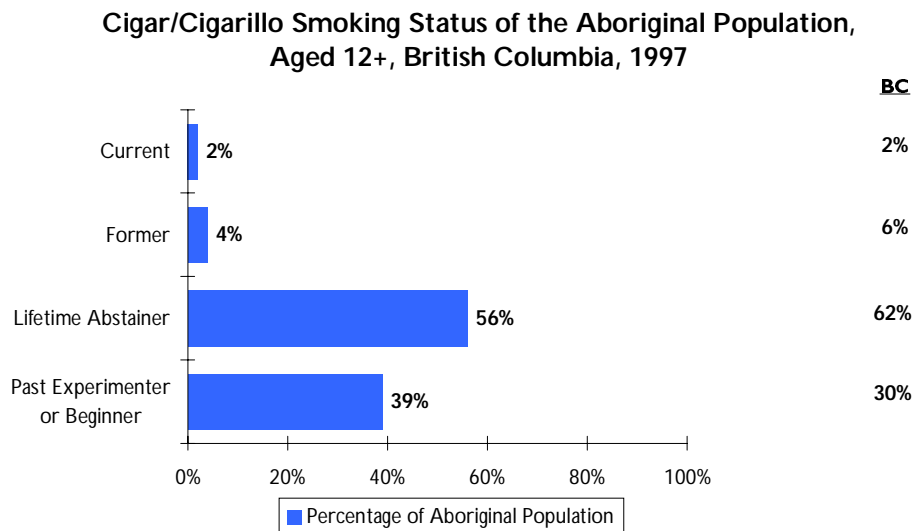
5.2.2 Alternate Tobacco Use Status

Cigar/Cigarillo Smoking Status

For cigar smoking among the Aboriginal population, four user groups are identified by the survey: current (daily & non-daily), former, lifetime abstainer, and past experimenter or beginner (See graph).

The current prevalence of cigar smoking among the Aboriginal population is just 2%. Unlike cigarette smoking, there are insufficient numbers of cigar smokers to distinguish between daily and non-daily users. As shown in the graph, this percentage for current users is the same as for the entire province.

The graph also shows that former cigar smokers in the Aboriginal population represent 4% of residents, while those who have never smoked cigars make up 95%. This never user group includes lifetime abstainers (56%) and past experimenters or beginners (39%). The percentage who have never smoked cigars in the Aboriginal population is similar to that for the whole province but there are more experimenters/beginners (39% vs. 30%) and fewer lifetime abstainers (56% vs. 62%).

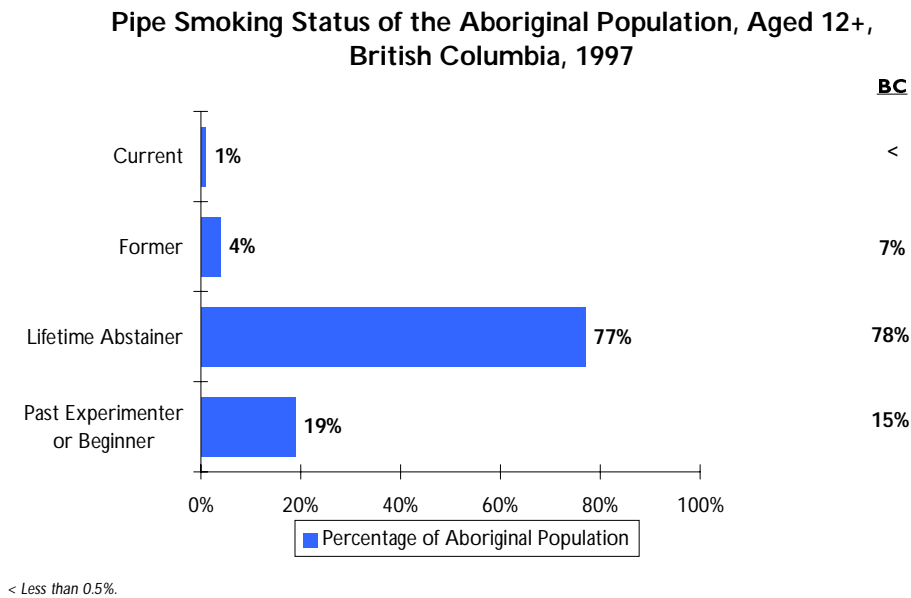


Pipe Smoking Status

For the smoking of pipe tobacco among the Aboriginal population, the survey also identifies four user groups: current (daily & non-daily), former, lifetime abstainer, and past experimenter or beginner (see graph).

The current prevalence of pipe smoking among the Aboriginal population is 1%. Like cigar smoking, there are insufficient numbers of pipe smokers in the Aboriginal population to distinguish between daily and non-daily users. As exhibited in the graph below, this extremely low prevalence rate is consistent with that found provincially.

The graph also indicates that 4% of those in the Aboriginal population are former pipe smokers, while 96% have never smoked pipe tobacco. This never user group includes lifetime abstainers (77%) and a smaller group of past experimenters or beginners (19%). These percentages are also in keeping with those found for the whole province with the past experimenters/beginners slightly higher than for the province (19% vs. 15%).



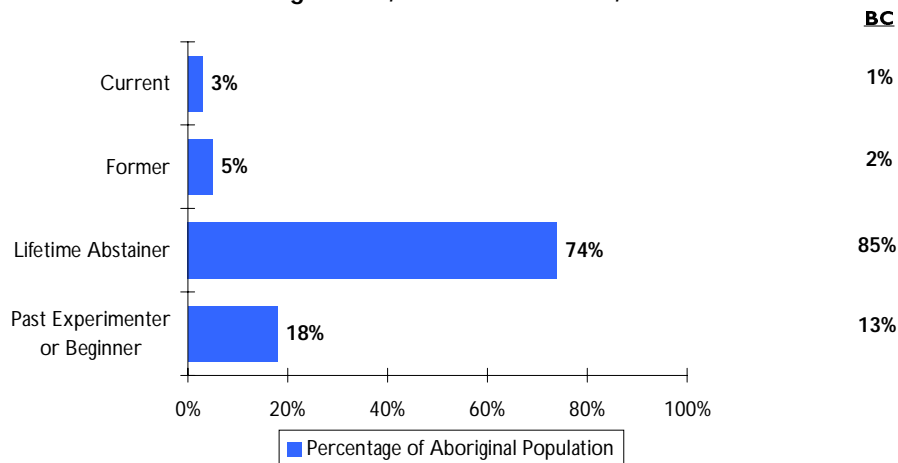
Smokeless Tobacco Use Status

Smokeless tobacco use (i.e., snuff, pinch and chewing tobacco) among the Aboriginal population was treated similarly by the survey and four user groups are identified: current (daily & non-daily), former, lifetime abstainer, and past experimenter or beginner.

The current prevalence of smokeless tobacco use among the Aboriginal population is just 3%. There are insufficient numbers of smokeless users to distinguish between daily and non-daily use. While the prevalence of smokeless tobacco use in the Aboriginal population is low (3%), it is three times that for the entire province (1%).

Former users of smokeless tobacco products represent only 5% of the Aboriginal population, while those who have never used smokeless tobacco represent fully 92% of the population aged 12+ years. As shown in the graph, this never user group includes lifetime abstainers (74%) and past experimenters or beginners (18%). Compared to the provincial results, there are more past experimenters/beginners (18% vs. 13%), more former users (5% vs. 2%) and fewer lifetime abstainers (74% vs. 85%).

Smokeless Tobacco Use Status of the Aboriginal Population, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997

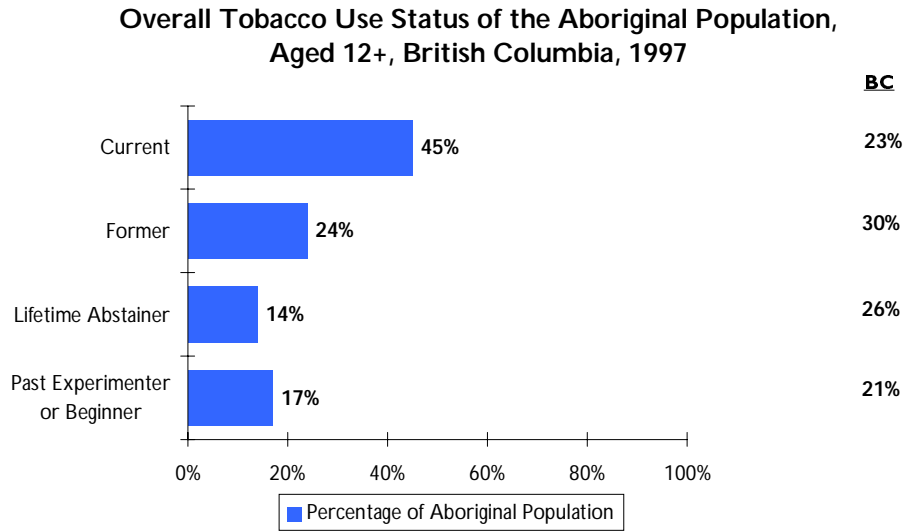


5.2.3 Overall Tobacco Use Status

The current prevalence of any form of tobacco use among the Aboriginal population aged 12+ years is summarized in the graph below. This figure combines some of the information contained in the previous graphs, to provide a present snapshot of the overall use of tobacco in the Aboriginal population.

Current tobacco use is prevalent among almost one in two members of the Aboriginal population aged 12+, with 45% indicating they currently use at least one form of tobacco. Former tobacco users represent 24% of the Aboriginal population, while 31% are never users which includes past experimenters or beginners at 17% and lifetime

abstainers at 14%. As shown in the graph, these findings are quite different to that found in province as a whole; current use is much higher, former use is slightly lower, and never use considerably lower.



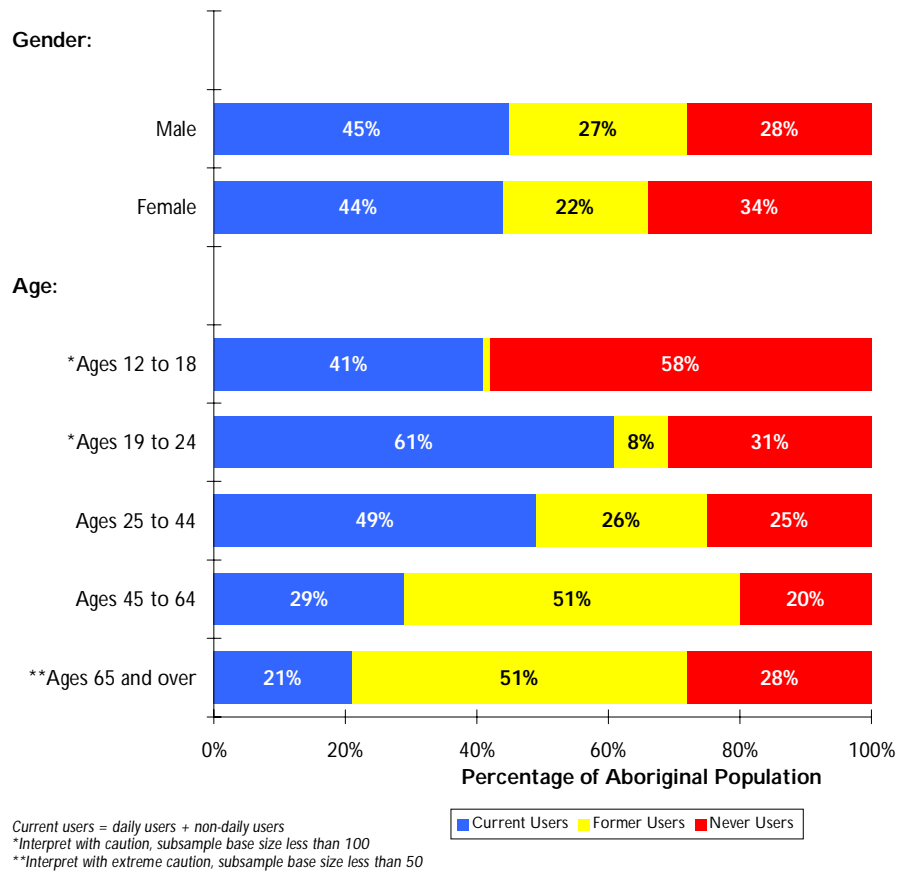
5.3 Social Demographics of Tobacco Use

In this section, use of any form of tobacco (i.e., current, former vs. never) has been cross tabulated against a range of social demographic characteristics of residents, in order to demonstrate a number of social and economic variations in tobacco usage. As already outlined in *Overall Tobacco Use Status*, 45% of the Aboriginal population are current tobacco users, 24% are former users, and 31% are never users.

5.3.1 Gender and Age

The graph below highlights differences in tobacco use in the Aboriginal population as a function of gender and age. There is virtually no difference in the current use of tobacco between males and females but females are more likely to be never users (34% vs. 28%) and less likely to be former users (22% vs. 27%). In terms of age, current tobacco use is highest among 19 to 24 year olds (61%), 25 to 44 year olds (49%), and 12 to 18 year olds (41%). It is lowest among those aged 45 to 64 (29%) and those 65 and over (21%). Being a former user of tobacco rises steadily with age, from 1% among 12 to 18 year olds to 51% among Aboriginal residents aged 45 and over. On the other hand, the proportion of Aboriginal residents who have never used tobacco drops steadily from 58% of 12 to 18 years olds to 31% of those aged 19 to 24 years to 25% of those 25 to 44.

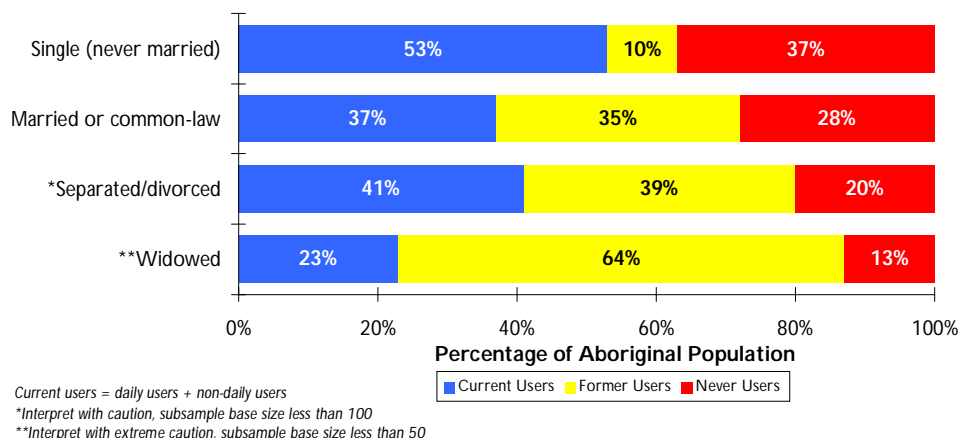
Current, Former & Never Users of Any Form of Tobacco among the Aboriginal Population by Gender and Age, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997



5.3.2 Birthplace and Marital Status

The graph below displays the relationship between tobacco use and marital status. There is an insufficient number of Aboriginals in the sample who were born outside of Canada to assess differences in tobacco use by country of birth. However, differences in rates of tobacco use are clearly evident as a function of marital status. For instance, Aboriginal residents who are single are the most likely to be current and never users (53% and 37% respectively). The proportion of former users is highest among Aboriginal residents who are widowed (64%).

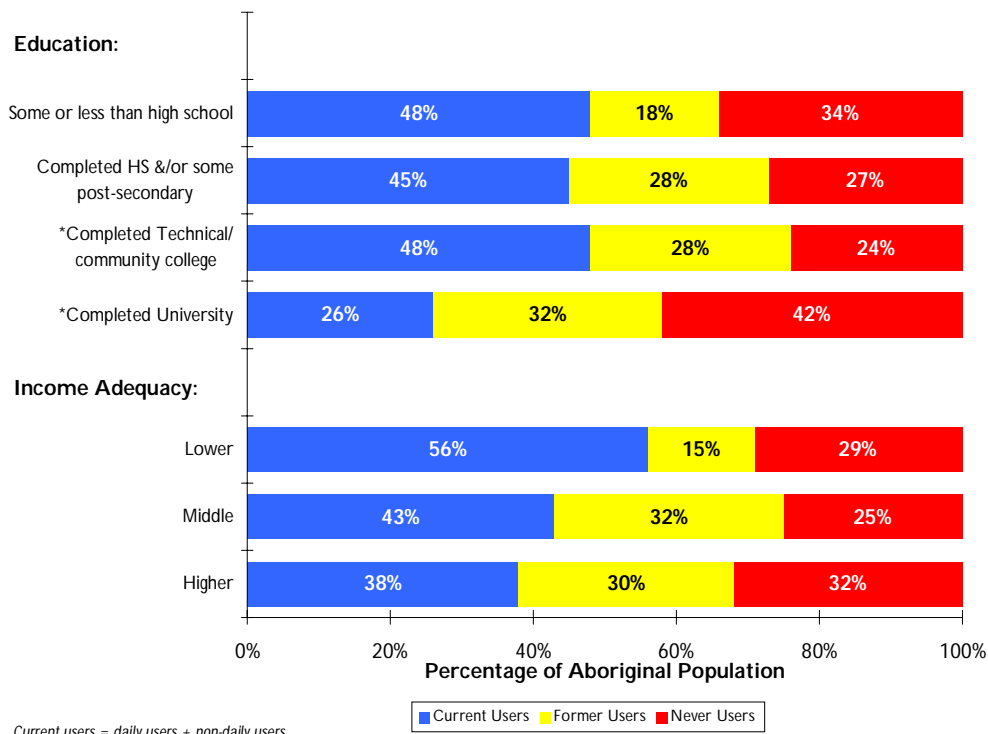
**Current, Former & Never Users of Any Form of Tobacco among
the Aboriginal Population by Marital Status, Aged 12+, British
Columbia, 1997**



5.3.3 Income Adequacy and Education

The graph below shows the relationship between tobacco use and income adequacy for the household, as well as the educational achievements of Aboriginal residents. A higher proportion of current users is evident among Aboriginal residents with low income adequacy (56%), and conversely the lowest proportion of current users is found for residents who are university graduates (26%). Furthermore, the proportion of Aboriginal residents who have never used any form of tobacco is considerably higher among university graduates (42%), than among all other educational levels.

Current, Former & Never Users of Any Form of Tobacco among the Aboriginal Population by Education & Income Adequacy, British Columbia, 1997

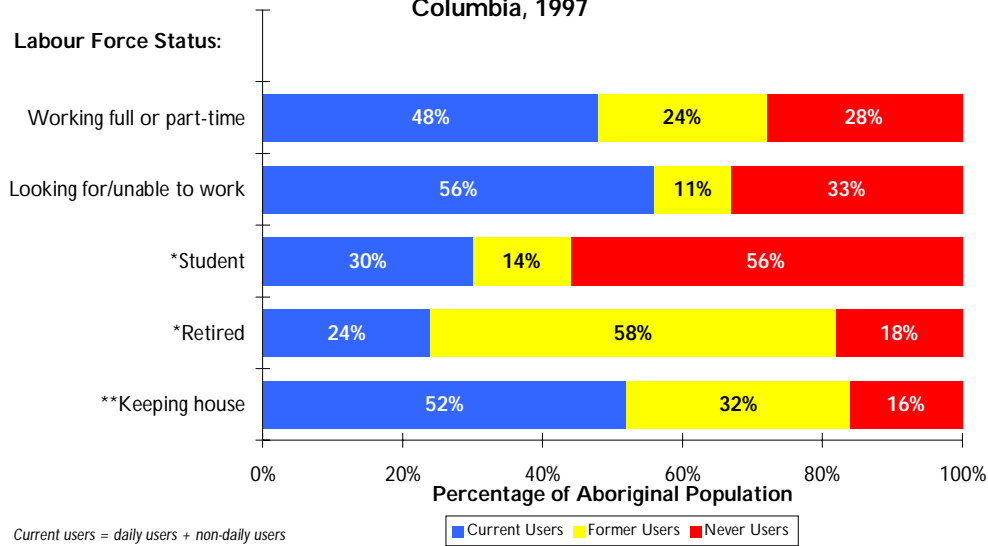


Current users = daily users + non-daily users
 *Interpret with caution, subsample base size less than 100

5.3.4 Labour Force Status

The graph below exhibits the relationship between tobacco use and the labour force status of Aboriginal residents at the time of the survey. Variations in tobacco use according to the labour force status of Aboriginals are fairly similar to that found for all residents of the province. For example, among Aboriginal residents who are either looking for work or who are unable to work the proportion of current users is 56%, while the proportion of current users among those working full or part-time is 48%. Current use of any form of tobacco by Aboriginals who are students or retired is fairly low in comparison (30% and 24% respectively). However, these proportions are largely attributable to the age of these Aboriginal residents, rather than their labour force status. For those keeping house, current tobacco use is also high at 52%.

Current, Former & Never Users of Any Form of Tobacco among the Aboriginal Population by Labour Force Status, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997



Current users = daily users + non-daily users
 *Interpret with caution, subsample base size less than 100
 **Interpret with extreme caution, subsample base size less than 50

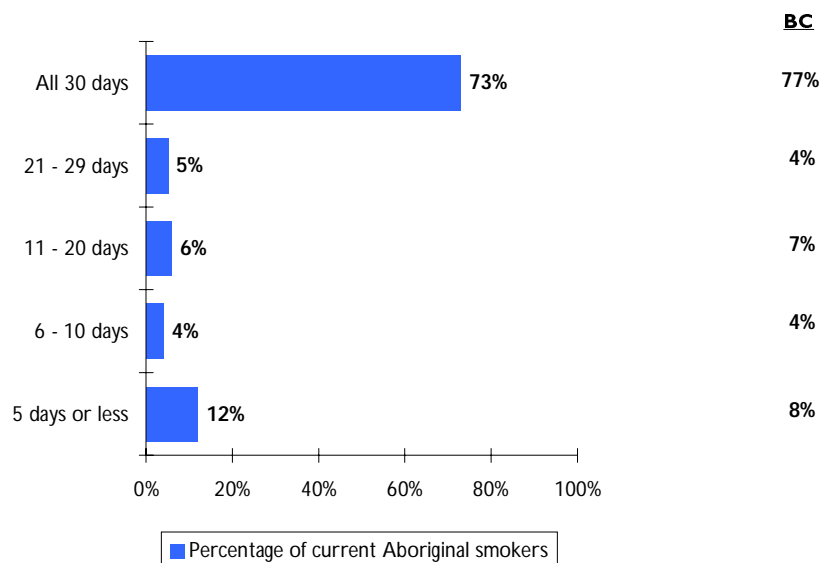
5.4 Frequency of Cigarette Smoking among Current Smokers

In addition to identifying current cigarette smokers, the survey also inquired about their frequency of smoking during the past month. All current cigarette smokers were asked on how many of the last 30 days they smoked at least one cigarette. If they smoked on 10 or fewer days in the past month, they were also asked how many cigarettes they usually smoked on these days. If they smoked on more than 10 days during the past month, they were asked how many cigarettes they smoked on each of the last seven days prior to conducting the survey.

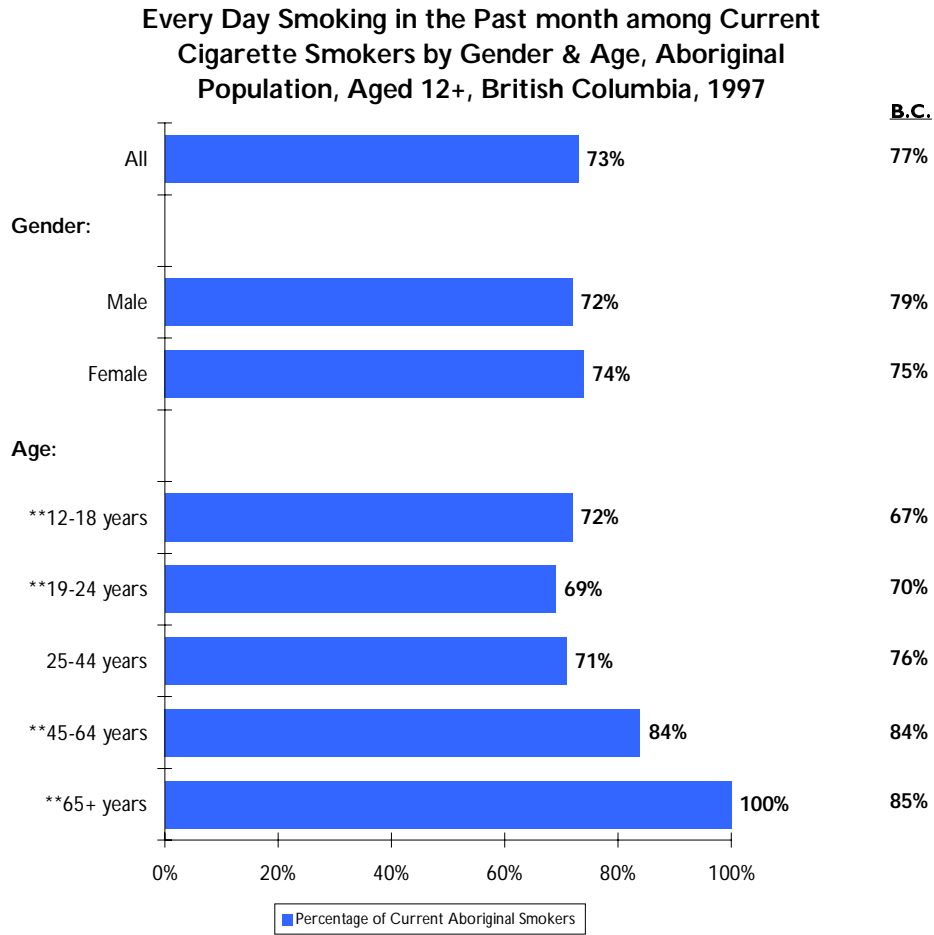
5.4.1 Days Smoked in Past Month

The number of days in the past month in which current cigarette smokers in the Aboriginal population had at least one cigarette is displayed the graph below. Very infrequent smoking, such as on 5 or fewer days per month is reported by 12% of Aboriginal smokers, while smoking on all 30 days during the past month was reported by almost three-quarters (73%) of current Aboriginal smokers. This rate for every day smoking is slightly lower than that found among all cigarette smokers across the province (77%) while those who smoke five days or less is slightly higher (12% vs. 8%).

**Days Smoked in the Past month among Current
Cigarette Smokers, Aboriginal Population, Aged 12+,
British Columbia, 1997**



As shown in the graph below, males and females are equally likely to report smoking on all 30 days in the past month (i.e., are daily smokers). In terms of age, smoking on all 30 days during the past month is roughly equal for ages 12 to 44 (69% to 72%) but jumps to 86% or more for those 45 or older. These results are not consistent with that found for the province where males are more likely to be everyday smokers and a clearer age gradient exists. It is also noteworthy that every day smoking by males in the Aboriginal population is slightly lower than for the entire province (72% vs. 79%).

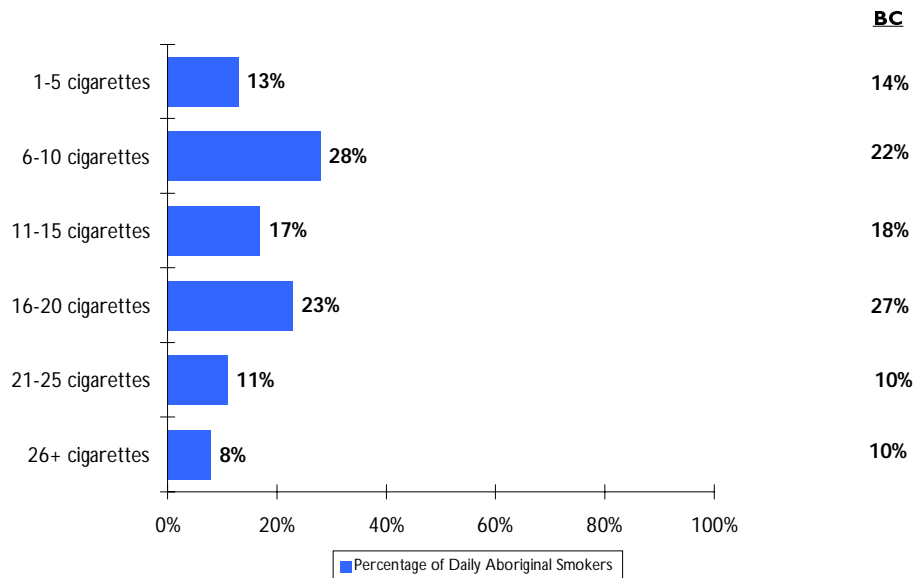


Current cigarette smokers = daily smokers + non-daily smokers
 **Interpret with extreme caution, subsample base size less than 50

5.4.2 Cigarettes per Day by Daily Smokers

The graph below illustrates that the proportion of daily cigarette smokers in the Aboriginal population who report averaging 5 or fewer cigarettes per day is (13%) slightly less than the proportion who report averaging more than 20 cigarettes per day (19%). The average number cigarettes smoked per day by daily cigarette smokers in the Aboriginal population is 15.6. This average number is marginally lower than the average for all daily cigarette smokers in the province (16.6 per day).

Average Number of Cigarettes per Day among Daily Cigarette Smokers, Aboriginal Population, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997



Averages: Aboriginal Population = 15.6; BC = 16.6

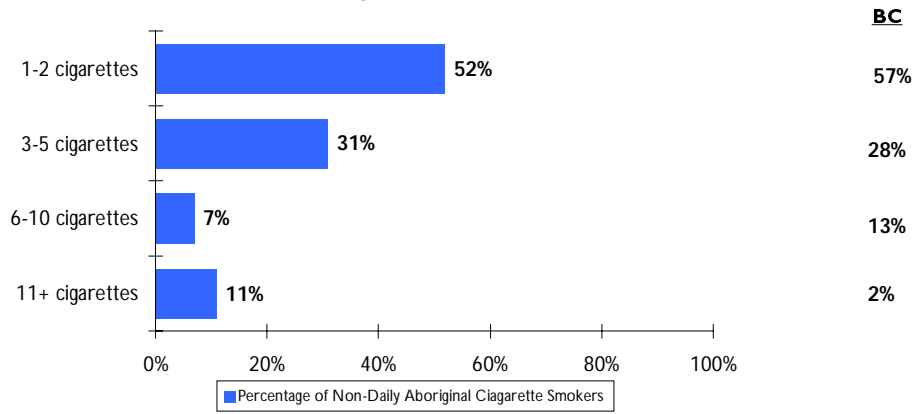
As shown in the table below, on average males smoke more per day than females (17.1 vs. 14.3). Additionally, the average number of cigarettes per day is highest in the 25 to 44 year age grouping (18.0). Both these gender and age differences are also apparent for the province as a whole, although provincially the largest number of cigarettes per day is in the 45 to 64 year age grouping.

Average Number of Cigarettes per Day Among Daily Cigarette Smokers by Gender & Age, Aboriginal Population, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997		
	Aboriginal Population	BC
Gender:		
Male	17.1	18.2
Female	14.3	15.0
Age:		
**12-18 years	10.0	10.5
**19-24 years	15.8	13.3
*25-44 years	18.0	16.8
**45-64 years	15.0	19.2
**65+ years	12.5	17.1
*Interpret with caution, subsample base size less than 100		
**Interpret with extreme caution, subsample base size less than 50		

5.4.3 Cigarettes per Day by Non-Daily Smokers

The number of cigarettes smoked per day by non-daily cigarette smokers in the Aboriginal population (i.e., those who report either occasional smoking or had smoked on 1 to 29 days in the past month) are displayed in the graph below. In contrast to the daily smokers, over half (52%) of these smokers report having only 1 to 2 per day, 31% report having 3 to 5 per day, and just one in ten report having 11 or more cigarettes per day on the days that they smoke. The average number of cigarettes per day for this non-daily group is 4.6. The proportion smoking 11 or more cigarettes per day is greater than that for the province. However, given the small sample numbers, this difference (11% vs. 2%) could be accounted for by sampling variability.

**Average Number of Cigarettes per Day on Smoking Days
among Non-Daily Cigarette Smokers, Aboriginal
Population†, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997**



Averages: Aboriginal Population=4.6; BC=3.5

†Interpret with caution, total base size less than 100

5.5 Age of Initiation for Tobacco Use

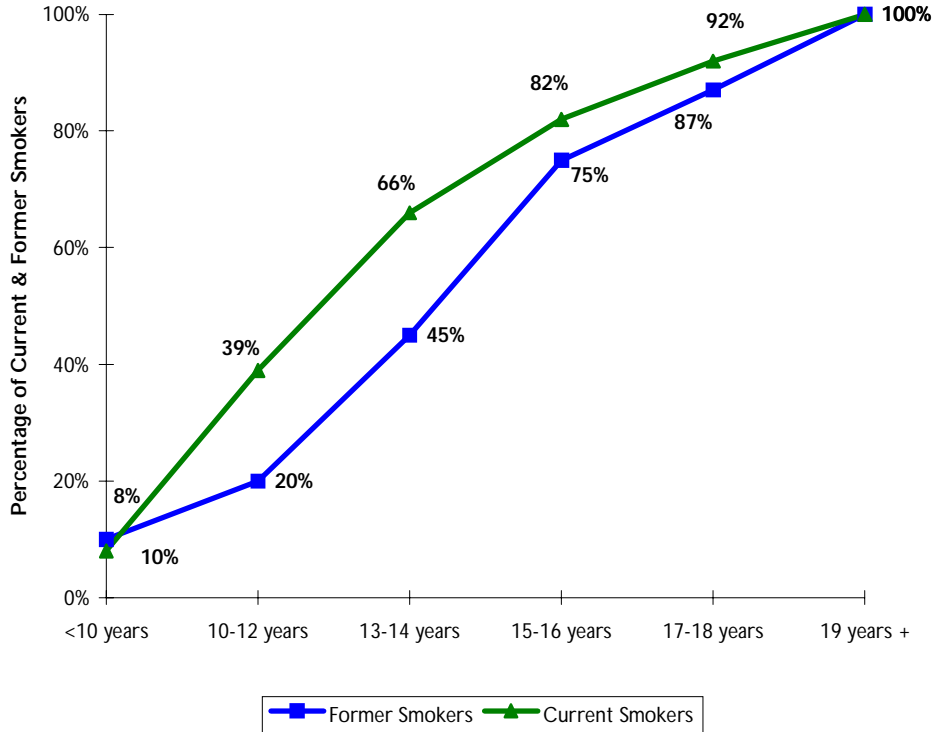
Both former and current users of tobacco identified by the survey were asked their age when they first started using various tobacco products. In the case of cigarettes, they were asked either their age when they smoked their first whole cigarette (if aged 12 to 19 years), or alternatively, their age when they first started smoking cigarettes (if aged 20 years and older). For cigar, pipe and smokeless tobacco users, they were simply asked their age when they first started using the product.

5.5.1 Age of Initiation for Cigarette Smoking

The cumulative age of initiation for cigarette smoking among residents of the Aboriginal population is displayed in the graph and table below, for current and former cigarette smokers. Among **current** cigarette smokers, 39% began smoking before the age of 13, 66% began smoking before age 15 and 92% began smoking before age 19. The average age of initiation for those Aboriginal residents who currently smoke cigarettes is 14.0 years. The pattern of responses among Aboriginals who are **former** cigarette smokers is shifted to older age categories, with 20% indicating they began smoking before the age of 13, 45% began before age 15 and 87% began before age 19. The average age of initiation among these former cigarette smokers is 15.2 years. While the pattern of responses for current and former smokers are similar, current smokers is skewed much younger – before the age of 13 (39% vs. 20%) and before the age of 15 (66% vs. 45%).

Cumulative Distribution for Age of Initiation among Current & Former Cigarette Smokers, Aboriginal Population, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997

- Age when smoked first cigarette or started smoking cigarettes -



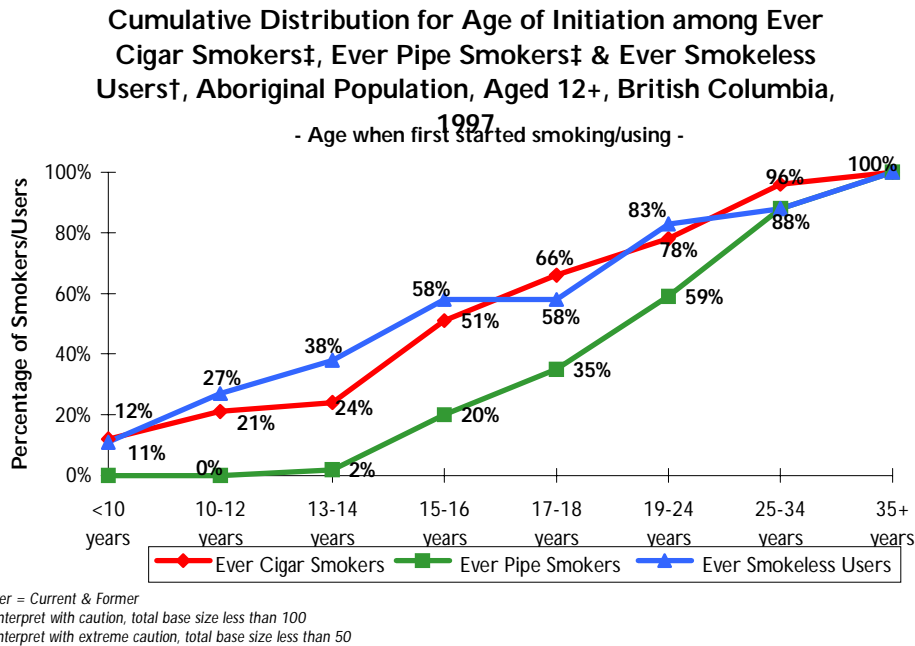
As shown in the table below, these average ages for the onset of cigarette smoking are generally younger than that for all cigarette smokers in the province.

Average Age of Initiation among Current & Former Cigarette Smokers, Aboriginal Population, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997		
	Aboriginal Population	BC
	Years	Years
Current	14.0	15.7
Former	15.2	16.4

5.5.2 Age of Initiation for Cigars, Pipes & Smokeless Tobacco

Due to the low prevalence of cigar and pipe smoking, as well as smokeless tobacco use, it is not possible to examine the age of initiation for current versus former users separately. Therefore, the cumulative age of initiation for residents of the Aboriginal

population who have ever used (current + former) cigars, pipes and smokeless tobacco are displayed the graph below. The reader is reminded that the sample sizes for each of these tobacco products is less than 50 and should be interpreted with extreme caution.



Among the Aboriginal population who have ever smoked cigars, 21% began smoking cigars before age 13, 66% began before age 19, 78% began before age 25, and 96% began before age 35. Compared to cigarette smoking, the average age of onset for cigar smoking is somewhat older at 18.4 years, which is much lower than the average age found for the province (22.8 years).

For Aboriginal residents who have ever smoked pipe tobacco, none began smoking cigars before age 13, 35% began before age 19, 59% began before age 25, and 88% began before age 35. The average age of onset for pipe smoking is even older than that for cigarettes and cigars at 24.1 years. This is very close to the average age of initiation found in the province (24.6 years).

Among those residents of the Aboriginal population who have ever used smokeless tobacco, 27% began before age 13, 58% began before age 19, 83% began before age 25, and 88% began before age 35. The average age of onset for smokeless tobacco use is similar to that of cigars, at 18.4 years. This average age for the onset of smokeless tobacco use is much younger than for the entire province (21.8 years).

Average Age of Initiation among Ever Cigar Smokers‡, Ever Pipe Smokers‡ & Ever Smokeless Users‡, Aboriginal Population, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997		
	Aboriginal Population	BC
	Years	Years
Ever Cigar Smoker	18.4	22.8
Ever Pipe Smoker	24.1	24.6
Ever Smokeless User	18.4	21.8
<i>‡Interpret with extreme caution, total base size less than 100.</i>		
<i>‡Interpret with extreme caution, total base size less than 50.</i>		

5.6 Exposure to Environmental Tobacco Smoke (ETS) among Non-Smokers

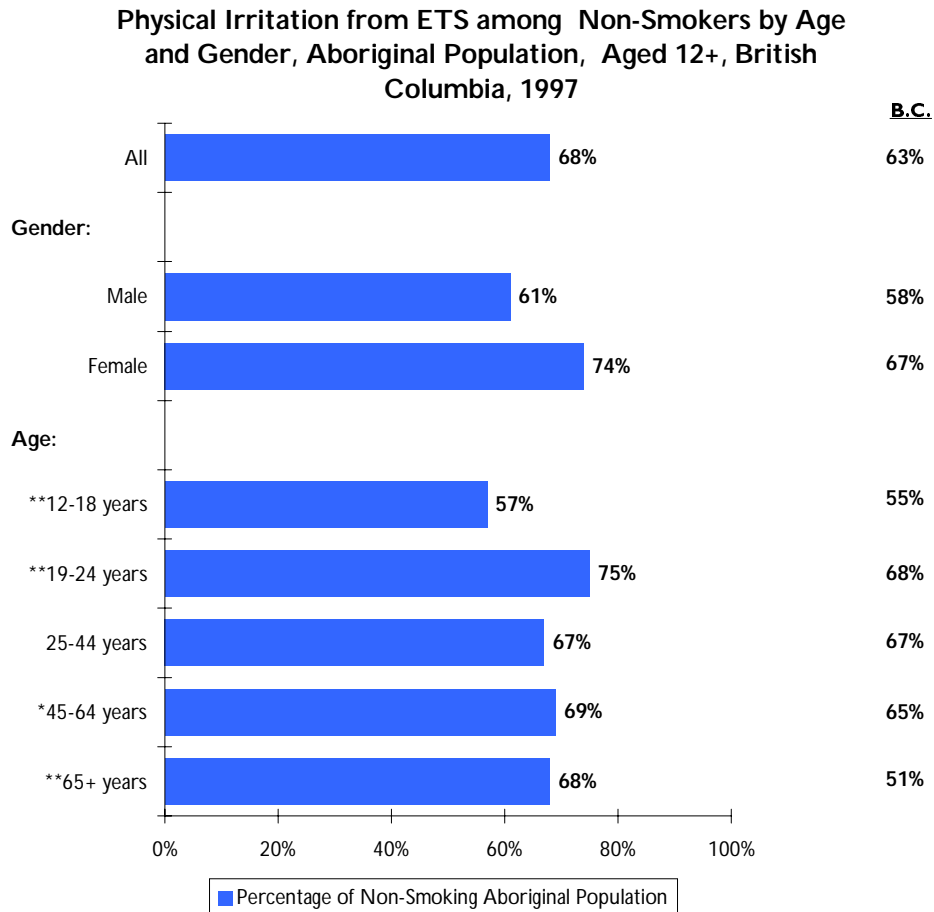
In addition to inquiring directly about tobacco use, the survey also asked residents of the Aboriginal population about their exposure to environmental tobacco smoke (ETS), sometimes known as secondhand smoke, in their own homes, at work and school and in other public places. Being exposed to ETS was defined as spending at least 10 minutes in an enclosed area where someone is smoking or in a room where people are smoking.

5.6.1 Irritation From Exposure to ETS

The survey asked all residents, if "tobacco smoke usually causes physical irritation to your eyes, your breathing or your throat"? Yes responses to this question for non-smokers are outlined the graph below. Two-thirds (68%) of non-smokers (i.e., those in the Aboriginal population who do not currently use cigarettes, cigars or a pipe) report they are usually physically irritated by ETS. Interestingly, almost one-half (46%) of Aboriginal smokers report physical irritation. Both Aboriginal smokers and non-smokers are generally more likely than all residents of the province to report irritation.

Some gender differences among Aboriginal non-smokers are also evident with 61% of males versus 74% of females indicating they are usually irritated by ETS. Age related differences are also evident with 57% of non-smokers under the age of 12 to 18 being irritated by ETS compared to 75% of those aged 19 to 24 years. Yet this proportion declines with age to about 68% among non-smokers aged 25 and over. As displayed in the graph, this pattern of findings differs somewhat from the survey data for non-smokers throughout the province. There is a much steeper decline with age in the proportion who are usually irritated by ETS (i.e., from 68% to 51%).

By contrast, there are no substantial differences in the proportion of non-smoking Aboriginal residents who are irritated by ETS as a function of marital status, income adequacy, education, and labour force status.

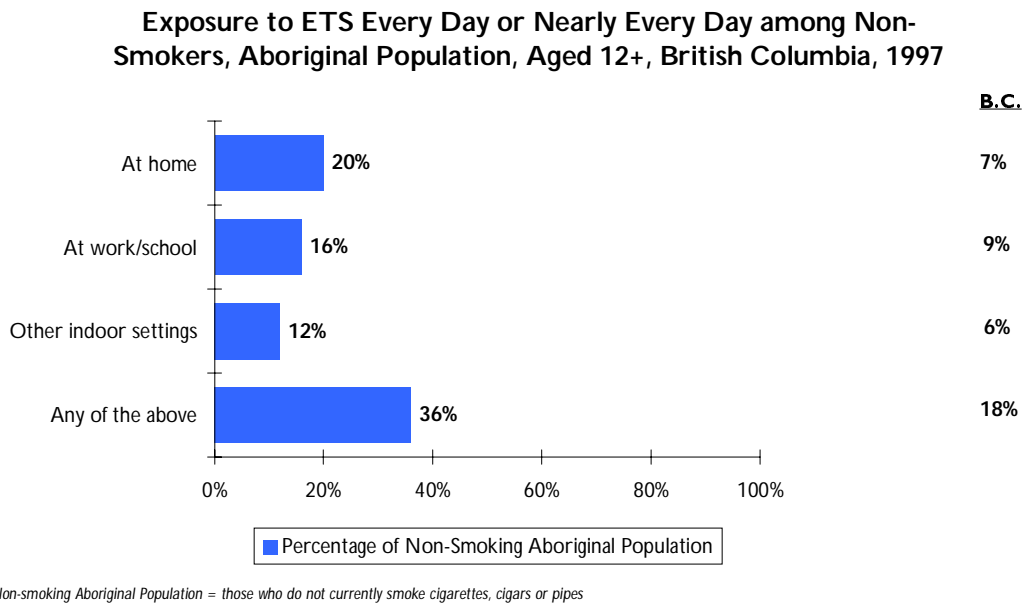


*Non-smoking Aboriginal Population = those who do not currently smoke cigarettes, cigars or pipes.
 *Interpret with caution, subsample base size less than 100
 **Interpret with extreme caution, subsample base size less than 50*

5.6.2 Overall Exposure to ETS

Finally, the following graph combines some of the survey findings concerning exposure to ETS for non-smoking Aboriginal residents. Specifically, it displays the proportion of non-smoking residents who have daily or nearly daily exposure to ETS at home, at work or school, and in other public settings, separately. More importantly, however, this

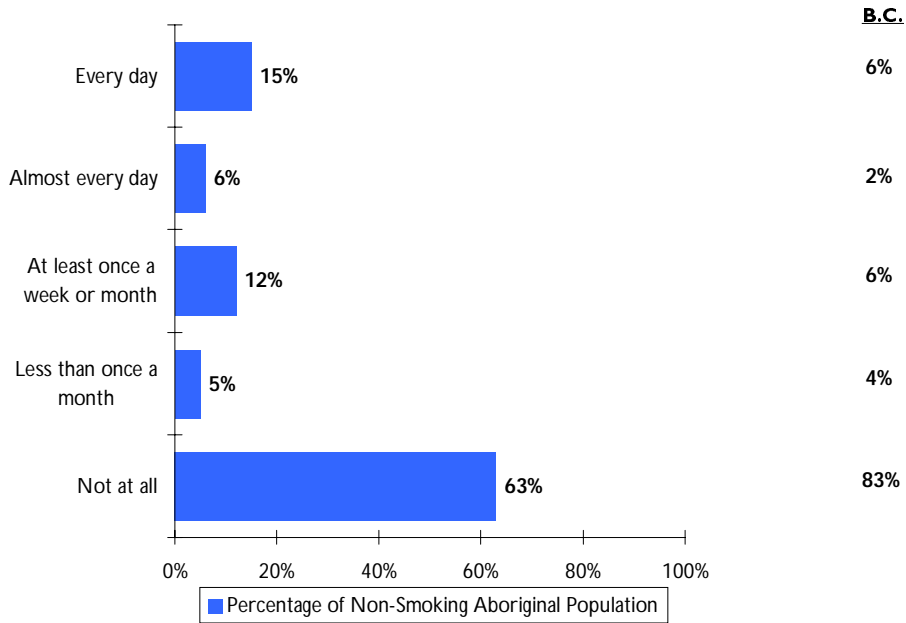
figure shows that 36% of Aboriginals who do not currently smoke are exposed to ETS daily or nearly daily in at least one of these three different types of settings. This proportion is twice that observed for non-smoking residents in the province (18%). Moreover, this 36% of non-smoking Aboriginal residents that are exposed to ETS daily or nearly daily, translates into 21% of all Aboriginal residents.



5.6.3 Exposure to ETS at Home

Non-Smokers: For non-smoking residents, response options for frequency of exposure to ETS inside your own home included: every day, nearly every day, at least once a week, at least once a month, less than once a month, and not at all. As shown in the following graph, 21% of non-smokers in the Aboriginal population report being exposed to ETS inside their home on a daily or nearly daily basis. On the other hand, 63% report no exposure to ETS at all in their homes. Overall, however, non-smokers in the Aboriginal population have much higher ETS exposure levels than do non-smokers in the province generally.

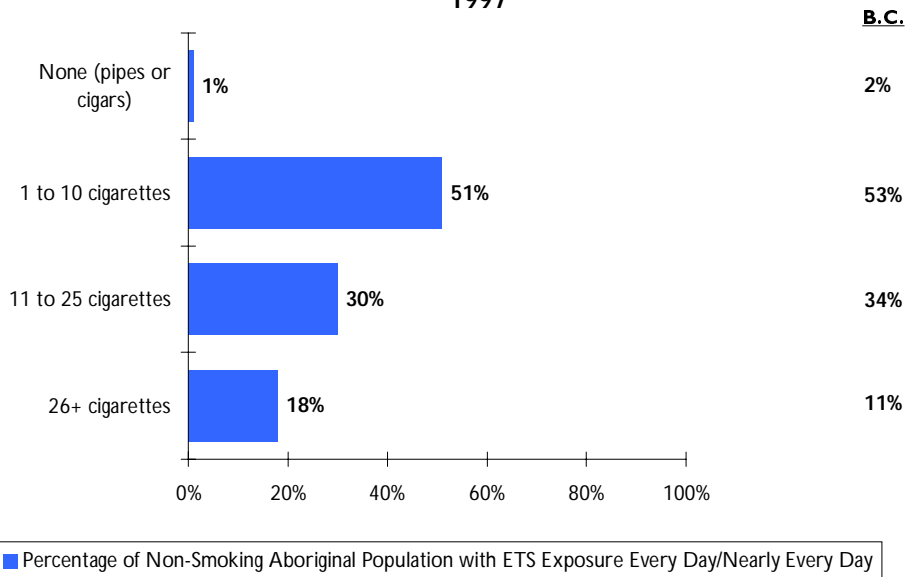
Frequency of Exposure to ETS at Home among Non-Smokers, Aboriginal Population, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997



Non-smoking Aboriginal Population = those who do not currently smoke cigarettes, cigars or pipes.

Aboriginal population residents who are exposed to ETS inside their homes every day or nearly every day, were also asked how many cigarettes are smoked inside your home on a typical day. Fifty-one percent of these residents indicated they are exposed to smoke from 1 to 10 cigarettes per day and 30% reported they are exposed to smoke from 11 to 25 cigarettes per day. The average number of cigarettes smoked inside these homes on a typical day is 20.6. This average for Aboriginal households is higher than for all non-smokers in the province (14.3).

Number of Cigarettes Smoked Inside Home among Non-Smokers with Every Day or Nearly Every Day Exposure to ETS, Aboriginal Population†, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997

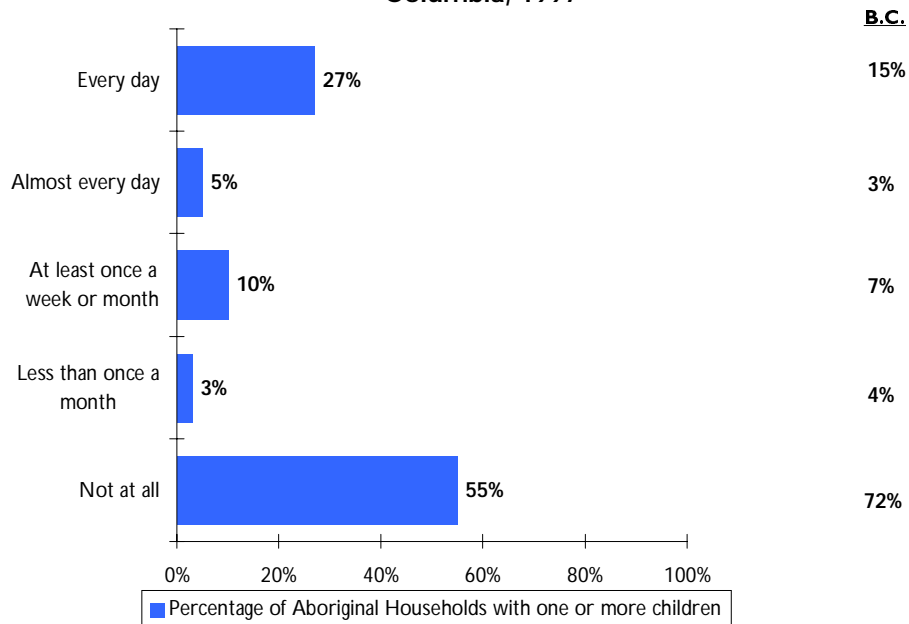


Average: Aboriginal Population = 20.6; B.C. = 14.3

†Interpret with caution, base size less than 100

Households with Children: ETS exposure in Aboriginal population households with children age 11 and under are highlighted in the following graph. In 32% of these households there is daily or nearly daily exposure to ETS, and in 55% there is no ETS exposure at all. These percentages are different, and less positive, than are found for households in the whole province (18% - daily/nearly daily, 72% - not at all).

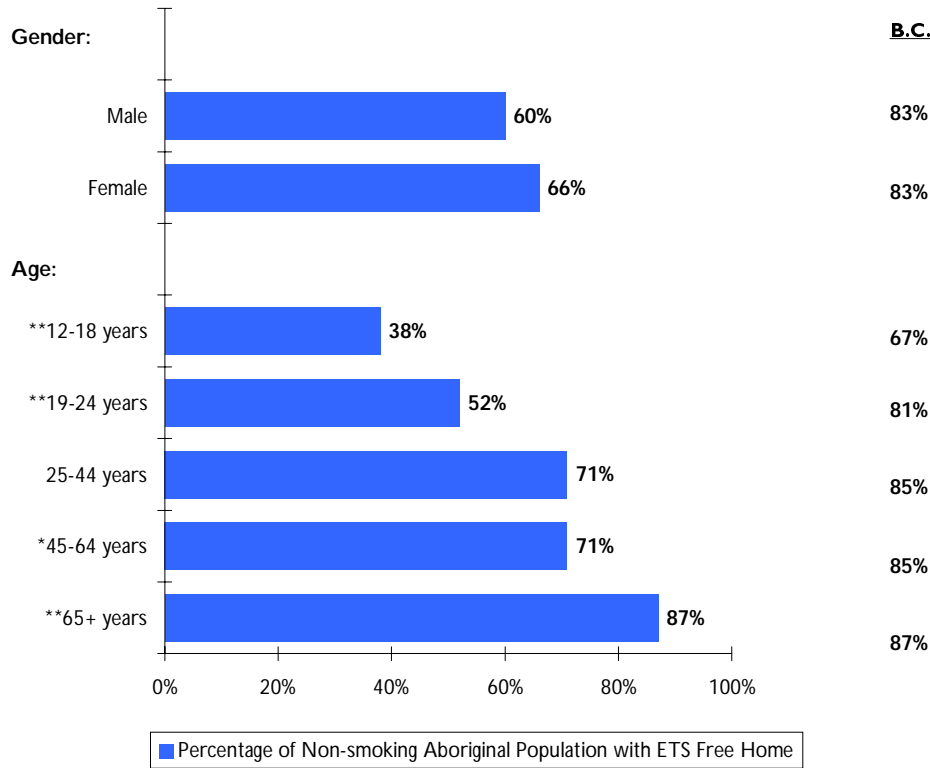
Frequency of Exposure to ETS in Homes with Children Aged 11 Years and Under, Aboriginal Population, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997



For Aboriginal households with children aged 11 and under, and which also have daily or nearly daily exposure to ETS, the average number of cigarettes smoked inside the home on a typical day is 19.8. This average is slightly higher than that found for households with children in the province (18.2).

ETS Free Households Non-smoking residents in the Aboriginal population who live in households with no ETS exposure at all are more likely to be female (66% vs. 60% male). As shown the graph below, this probability also tends to vary depending on the age of the resident. For instance, just 38% of 12 to 18 and 52% of 19 to 24 year old non-smoking Aboriginal residents live in households with no ETS exposure at all, but this percentage rises to 71% among non-smokers age 25 to 64 years and 87% among non-smokers 65 years and over. All but the oldest age category are lower percentages than found provincially.

**Non-Smokers with ETS Free Households by Gender & Age,
Aboriginal Population, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997**



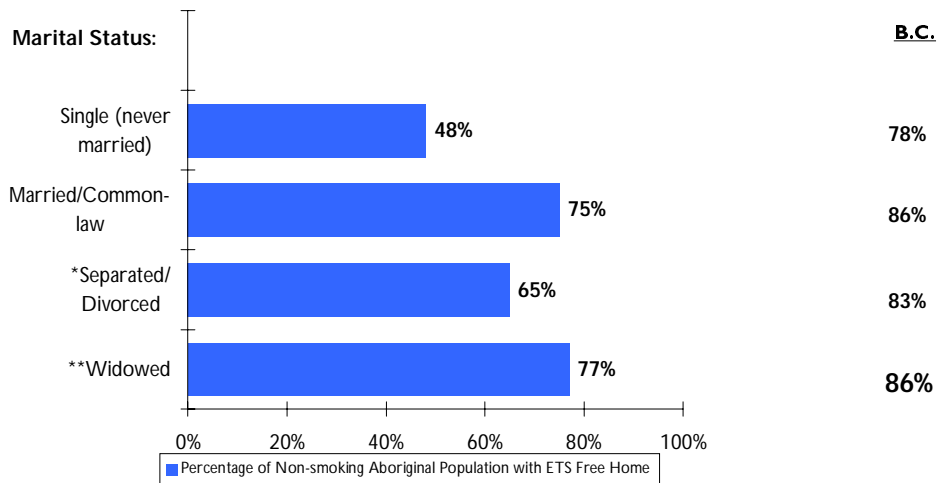
Non-smoking Aboriginal Population = those who do not currently smoke cigarettes, cigars or pipes.

**Interpret with caution, subsample base size less than 100*

***Interpret with extreme caution, subsample base size less than 50*

Single non-smoking Aboriginal residents are least likely to live in household with no ETS exposure at all (48%), compared to non-smokers who are married (75%) or those separated, divorced (65%) or widowed (77%). Although Aboriginal non-smokers are considerably less likely to live in an ETS free home than non-smokers in B.C. generally, regardless of their marital status.

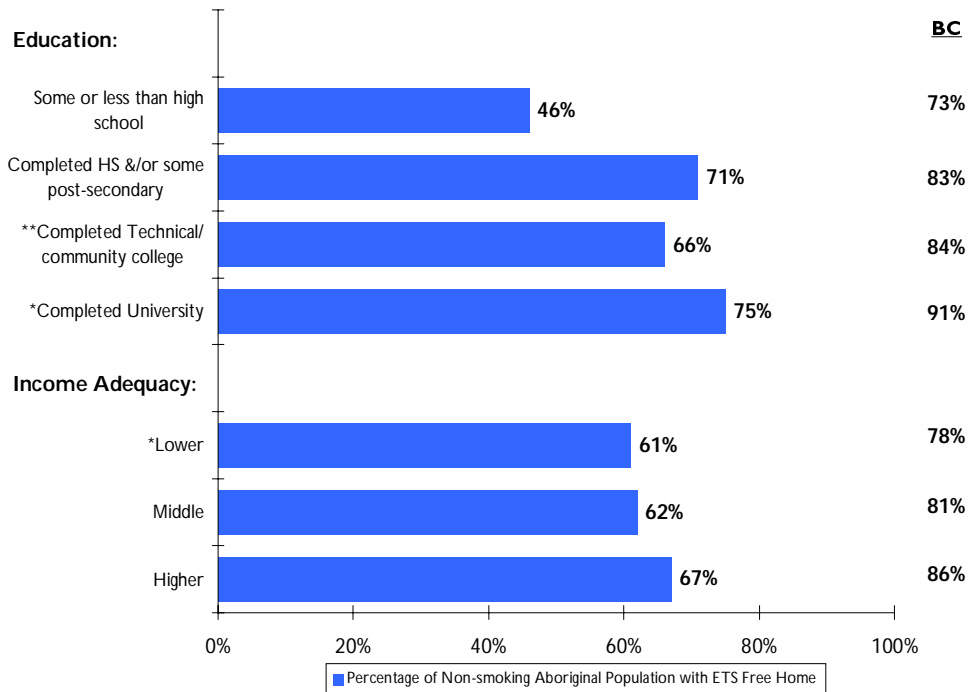
Non-Smokers with ETS Free Home by Marital Status, Aboriginal Population, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997



Non-smoking Aboriginal Population = those who do not currently smoke cigarettes, cigars or pipes
 *Interpret with caution, subsample base size less than 100
 **Interpret with extreme caution, subsample base size less than 50

The probability of non-smoking Aboriginal residents living in an ETS free household is also somewhat associated with the income adequacy of the household, and their educational achievements. As exhibited in the following graph, just 61% of non-smoking Aboriginal residents with low income adequacy reside in households without any ETS exposure at all, but this percentage rises to 67% among non-smokers with high income adequacy. A similar difference is apparent between Aboriginal residents with less than a high school education (46%) compared to Aboriginal residents who are university graduates (75%). This same pattern of differences by education and income adequacy for ETS free homes is evident among all non-smokers in the province.

Non-Smokers with ETS Free Home By Income Adequacy & Education, Aboriginal Population, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997



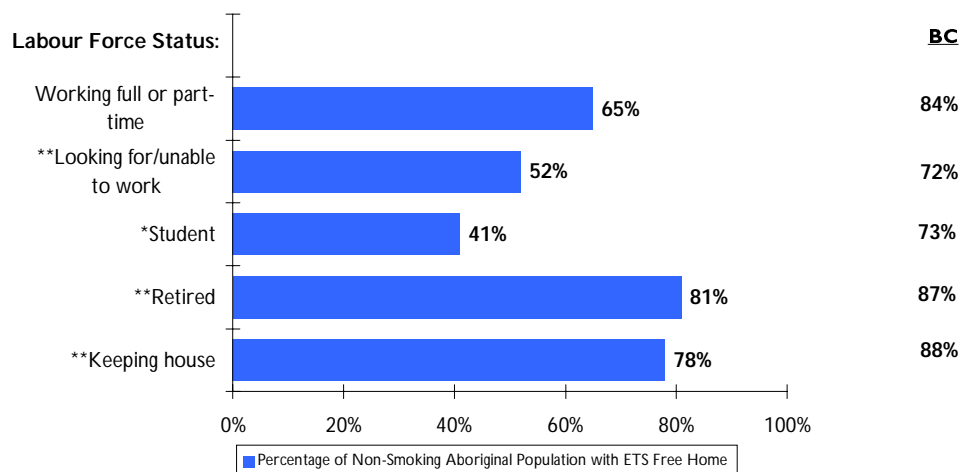
Non-smoking Aboriginal Population = those who do not currently smoke cigarettes, cigars or pipes

*Interpret with caution, subsample base size less than 100

**Interpret with extreme caution, subsample base size less than 50

The graph below displays the same relationship for the labour force status of Aboriginal non-smoking residents. Some differences between labour force groupings are apparent. For example, non-smokers who are students and those who are looking for work or are unable to work, are least likely to live in an ETS free household (41% and 52% respectively). Conversely, Aboriginal residents who are presently employed, retired or keeping house are most likely to live in an ETS free household (65%, 81% and 78%, respectively).

**Non-Smokers with ETS Free Home by Labour Force Status,
Aboriginal Population, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997**



Non-smoking Aboriginal Population = those who do not currently smoke cigarettes, cigars or pipes

*Interpret with caution, subsample base size less than 100

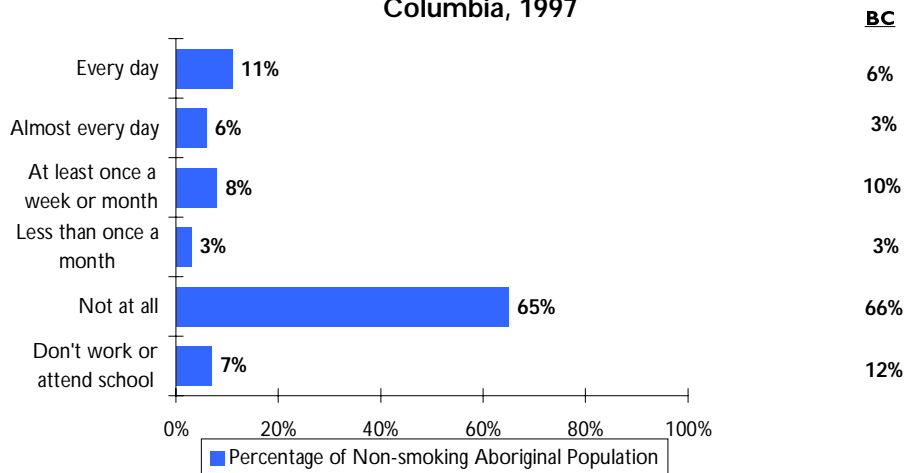
**Interpret with extreme caution, subsample base size less than 50

5.6.4 Exposure to ETS at Work or School

Non-smokers in the Aboriginal population were also asked about exposure to ETS at work or school. Response options for frequency of exposure to ETS at work or school included: every day, nearly every day, at least once a week, at least once a month, less than once a month, and not at all.

As shown in the graph, 17% of non-smokers report exposure to ETS every day or nearly every day when at work or school, while 65% said they are not exposed to ETS at all. These percentages indicate higher levels of every day or almost every day exposure to ETS than for non-smokers throughout the province (9%).

Frequency of Exposure to ETS at Work or School among Non-Smokers, Aboriginal Population, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997



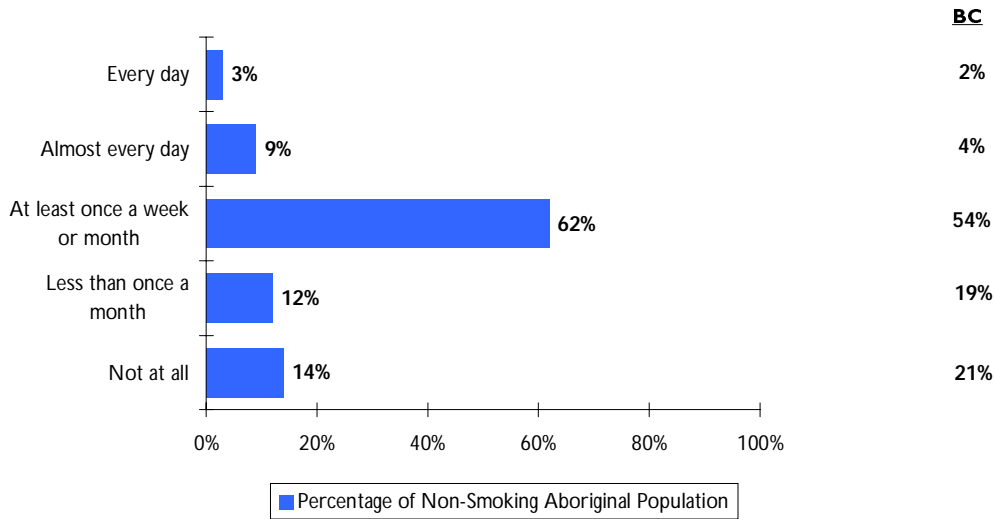
Non-smoking Aboriginal Population = those who do not currently smoke cigarettes, cigars or pipes

5.6.5 Exposure to ETS in Other Indoor Settings

Finally, all non-smokers in the Aboriginal population were asked, "apart from your home and place of work/school, are you exposed to tobacco smoke in any other indoor settings, such as other people's homes, bars or restaurants." Response options for frequency of exposure to ETS in other indoor setting also included: every day, nearly every day, at least once a week, at least once a month, less than once a month, and not at all.

As shown in the graph, some level of exposure to ETS in indoor settings such as other people's homes, restaurants or bars was reported by 86% of the non-smoking Aboriginal residents. Daily or nearly daily exposure in such settings was acknowledged by 12% of non-smoking Aboriginal residents. This percentage is higher than for all non-smoking residents in the province (6%).

Frequency of Exposure to ETS in other Indoor Settings among Non-Smokers, Aboriginal Population, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997

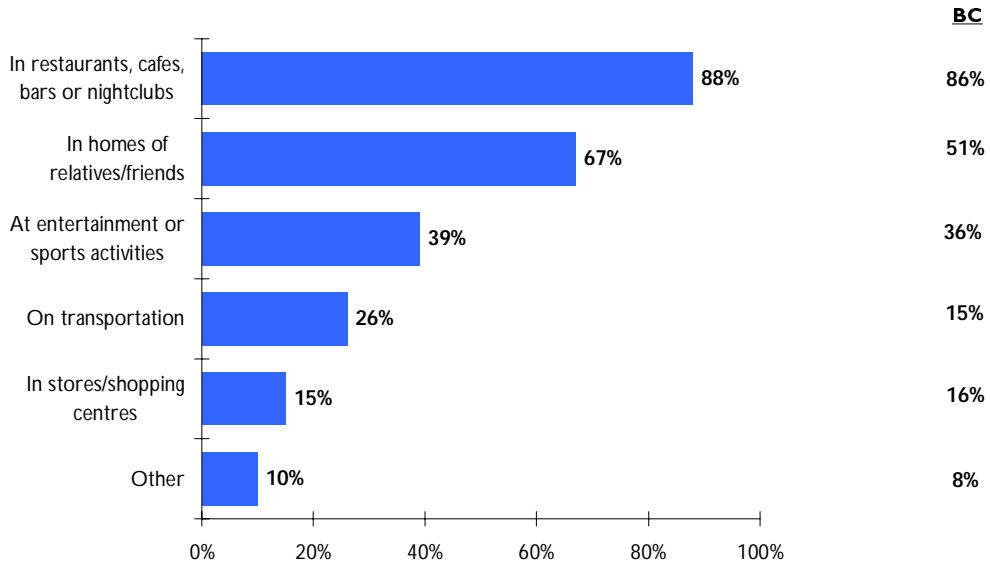


Non-smoking Aboriginal Population = those who do not currently smoke cigarettes, cigars or pipes

The 86% of non-smoking residents of the Aboriginal populations who indicated some level of exposure to ETS in the other indoor settings, were also asked specifically about being exposure to ETS in the following settings: public or private transportation; homes of friends or relatives; entertainment or sporting events; restaurants, bars or nightclubs; stores or shopping centres; and any other indoor settings.

As displayed in the graph below, a higher proportion of non-smoking Aboriginal residents report exposure to ETS in settings such as other people's homes (67%) and restaurants, cafes, bars or nightclubs (88%), than they do for entertainment (39%), transportation (26%) and stores or shopping centres (15%). These results are similar to provincial results except for the homes of relatives/friends and on transportation which are higher amongst the Aboriginal population.

**Exposure to ETS in Specific Indoor Settings among Non-Smokers,
Aboriginal Population, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997**



■ Percentage of Non-Smoking Aboriginal Population Reporting Some Level of Exposure in Other Indoor Settings

Non-smoking Aboriginal Population = those who do not currently smoke cigarettes, cigars or pipes

5.7 Demographics of Survey Samples

The following table presents demographic information from the weighted samples. Therefore, age and gender proportions for provincial results will be representative of province (aged 12+).

	Aboriginal Sample	BC Sample
Gender		
Male	49	49
Female	51	51
Age		
12-19	21	13
20-24	17	9
25-44	36	34
45-64	21	28
65+	5	17
<i>Average</i>	34.3	42.8
Marital Status		
Single	38	35
Married/Common Law	47	49
Separated/Divorced	11	8
Widowed	4	7
Children		
None	66	76
One	16	12
Two or more	17	12
Education		
Less than High School	10	6
Some high school and/or post-secondary	30	16
Completed High School	23	23
Some or Completed Technical/Community College	19	21
Some University	8	10
Completed University	6	15
Graduate Degree	4	8
Income Adequacy		
Low	12	5
Lower-Middle	15	10
Middle	24	26
Upper-Middle	24	38
High	10	21

	Aboriginal Sample	BC Sample
Labour Force Status		
Working full-time	39	41
Working part-time	10	9
Self-Employed	12	9
Looking for work or unable to work	12	6
Student	13	10
Retired	8	20
Keeping house	5	4
Place of Birth		
In Canada	95	79
Outside Canada	5	21

Demographically, the Aboriginal population differs from British Columbia on the following:

Age - the Aboriginal population is younger with an average age of 34.3 compared to 42.8 years for the entire province;

Children - the Aboriginal population is more likely to have children (33% vs. 24%);

Education - the Aboriginal population has a lower level of education than for the province overall – high school or less (63% vs. 45%) and university graduate (10% vs. 23%);

Income Adequacy - the Aboriginal population has a lower level of income adequacy: low income adequacy (27% vs. 15%) and high income adequacy (34% vs. 59%);

Place of Birth - the Aboriginal population has more residents born inside Canada (95% vs. 79%) and fewer born outside Canada (5% vs. 21%);and,

Labour Force Status - the Aboriginal population has more residents who are looking for work or unable to work (12% vs. 6%) and fewer retired residents (8% vs. 20%).