

## **8. East Kootenay CHSS Report**

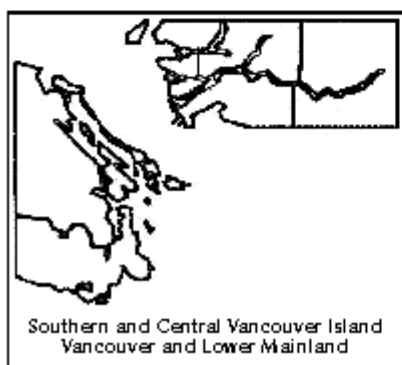
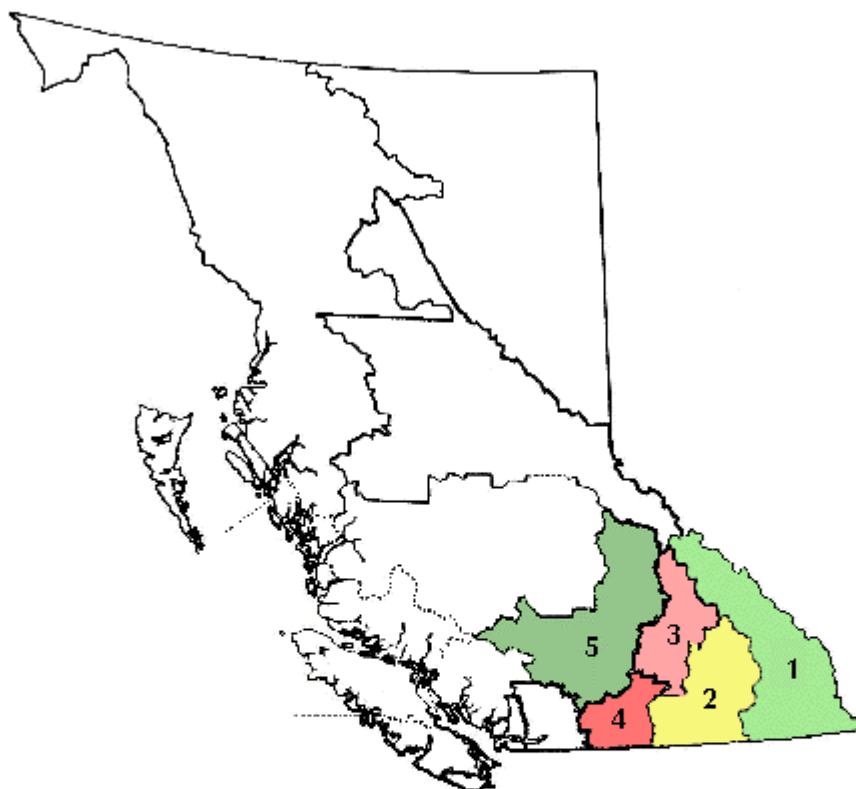
### **8.1 Introduction**

The results presented in this report are based on approximately 1,000 interviews with B.C. residents living within the East Kootenay Community Health Services Society. The margin of error for a sample size of 1,000 is  $\pm 3.1\%$  nineteen times out of twenty. The entire provincial sample was weighted to known age and gender proportions by the 18 RHBs/CHSSs (as per 1996 Statistics Canada data).

Information in this report pertains to the base questionnaire – prevalence of tobacco use, demographics of tobacco use, frequency of use, age of initiation, and exposure to environmental tobacco smoke.

Results for the East Kootenay have been compared with results for the province overall and a macro region called the Southern Interior which includes East Kootenay, North Okanagan, South Okanagan Similkameen, Thompson and West Kootenay-Boundary.

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- Southern Interior Region**
- 1. East Kootenay
  - 2. Central Kootenay
  - 3. North Okanagan
  - 4. Okanagan Similkameen
  - 5. Thompson

Prepared by: Planning and Evaluation Division, Ministry of Health and Ministry Responsible for Seniors  
Boundary Source: BC STATS, Ministry of Finance and Corporate Relations 21 MAY 1997

## 8.2 Summary

**Tobacco Use** - Current cigarette smokers in the East Kootenay area make up 26% of residents while former smokers represent 28% and never smokers 47%. The vast majority of current smokers (82%) are daily smokers. The use of other forms of tobacco such as cigars, pipes and smokeless tobacco is very low at 2% or less. In looking at overall tobacco use, 28% of East Kootenay residents are current users, 28% are former users, 24% are lifetime abstainers and 21% are past experimenters or beginners. The average age of initiation for current and former cigarette smokers is similar (15.7 and 16.1). The average age of initiation is higher for ever users (current and former) of other forms of tobacco – cigars (20.3), pipes (25.7) and smokeless tobacco (22.6).

In the East Kootenay area certain socio-demographic characteristics are related to tobacco use – gender, age, marital status, income adequacy, and labour force status. For example, residents more likely to be users are those with lower income adequacy and those between the ages 19 to 24.

**ETS** - Almost two-thirds of non-smokers and 33% smokers report physical irritation to their eyes, breathing or throat due to ETS. Amongst non-smokers, 12% report every day or almost every day ETS exposure at home, 14% at work or school and 11% in other indoor settings. This results in 28% of East Kootenay non-smoking residents who are exposed to ETS every day or almost every day or the equivalent of 20% of all East Kootenay residents. In total, 48% of East Kootenay residents' health is being adversely affected by tobacco (28% through current tobacco use and 20% through ETS).

### **8.3 Tobacco Use Status of East Kootenay Residents**

Detailed information concerning past and present use of all forms of tobacco, by the residents of East Kootenay (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.

#### **8.3.1 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 on next page).

The current prevalence of cigarette smoking among all residents of East Kootenay (aged 12+), is 26%. Daily users predominate among current cigarette smokers at 22%, while non-daily smokers represent 4% of all residents. As shown in the graph, this prevalence rate is fairly similar to that found in the Southern Interior region (24%) and the entire province (22%).

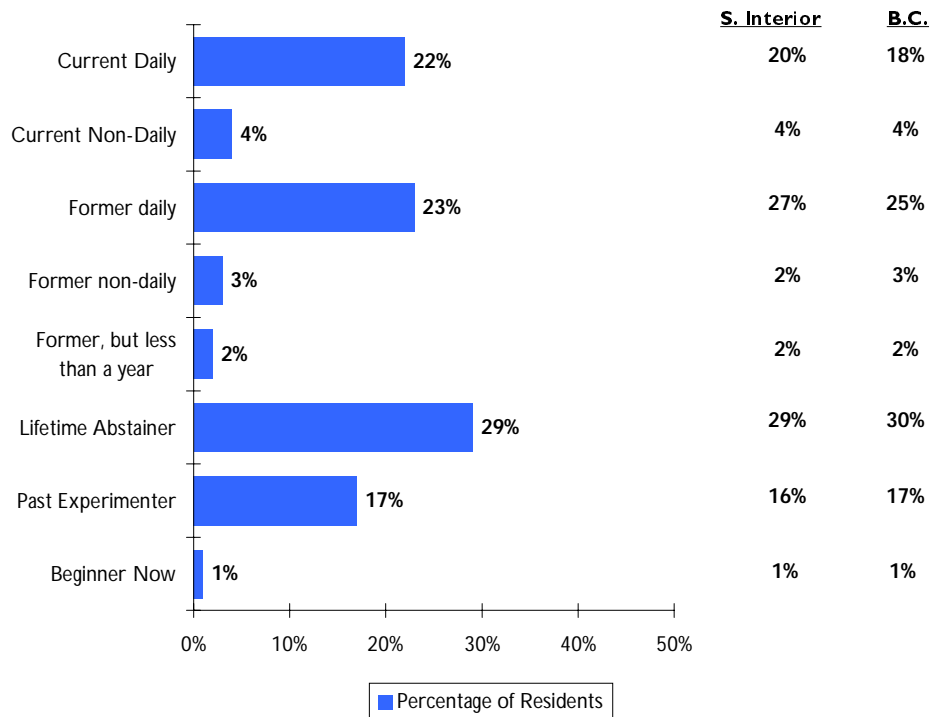
Former cigarette smokers comprise 28% of all East Kootenay residents. This percentage includes former daily smokers (23%), former non-daily smokers (3%), and former smokers, who quit less than a year ago (2%). These percentages are also quite similar to those found for the Southern Interior region and the entire province.

By contrast, East Kootenay CHSS residents who have never smoked cigarettes represent 47% of the population aged 12+ years. These never users include lifetime abstainers (29%), past experimenters (17%), and beginners (1%). A comparison with these same

percentages for the Southern Interior region and for the entire province suggests a nearly identical pattern.

In sum, current cigarette smokers make up 26% of residents in the East Kootenays, while former smokers represent 28% and never smokers 47%. Overall, these proportions are similar to those found for the Southern Interior region and the province.

**Cigarette Smoking Status of East Kootenay CHSS Residents,  
Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997**



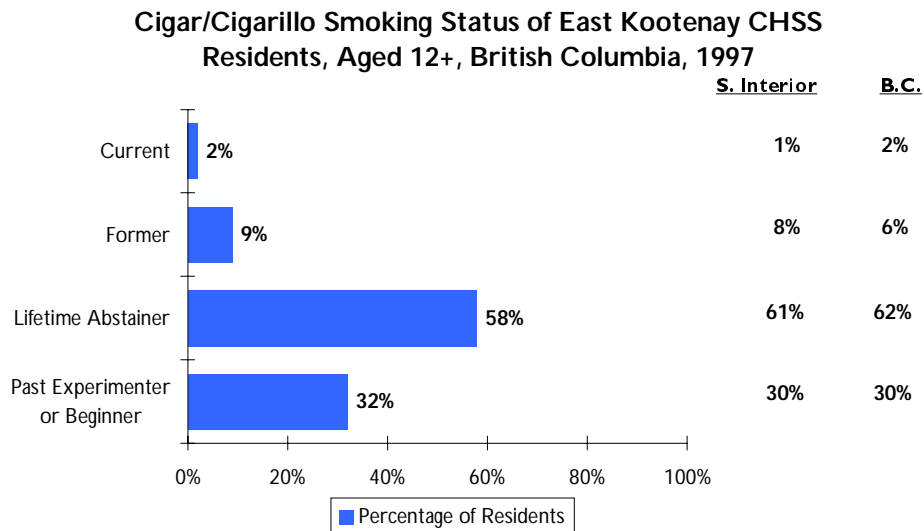
### **8.3.2 Alternate Tobacco Use Status**

#### **Cigar/Cigarillo Smoking Status**

For cigar smoking among residents of the East Kootenays, 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 East Kootenay residents 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 low percentage for current users appears quite similar to that found for the Southern Interior region and provincially, at 1% and 2% respectively.

The graph also shows that former cigar smokers in the East Kootenays represent 9% of residents, while those who have never smoked cigars make up 90% of the residential population. This never user group includes lifetime abstainers (58%) and past experimenters or beginners (32%). These percentages are also in line with those found for the Southern Interior region and for the whole province.



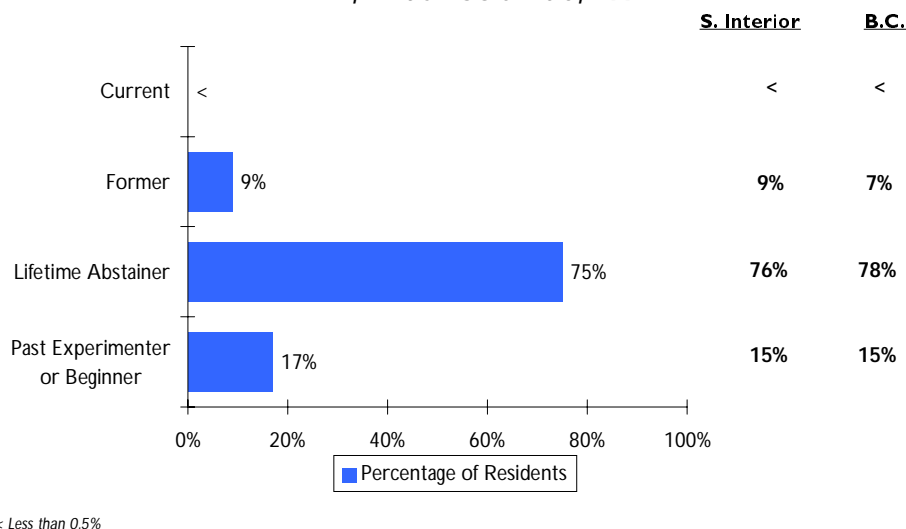
## Pipe Smoking Status

For the smoking of pipe tobacco among East Kootenay residents, 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 East Kootenay residents is less than 0.5%. Like cigar smoking, there are insufficient numbers of pipe smokers in the East Kootenays to distinguish between daily and non-daily users. As exhibited in the graph, this extremely low prevalence rate is consistent with that found in the Southern Interior region and provincially.

The graph also indicates that former pipe smokers in the East Kootenays represent 9% of all residents, while those who have never smoked pipe tobacco make up fully 92% of the residential population. This never user group includes lifetime abstainers (75%) and a smaller group of past experimenters or beginners (17%). These percentages are also in keeping with those found for the Southern Interior region and for the whole province.

### Pipe Smoking Status of East Kootenay CHSS Residents, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997



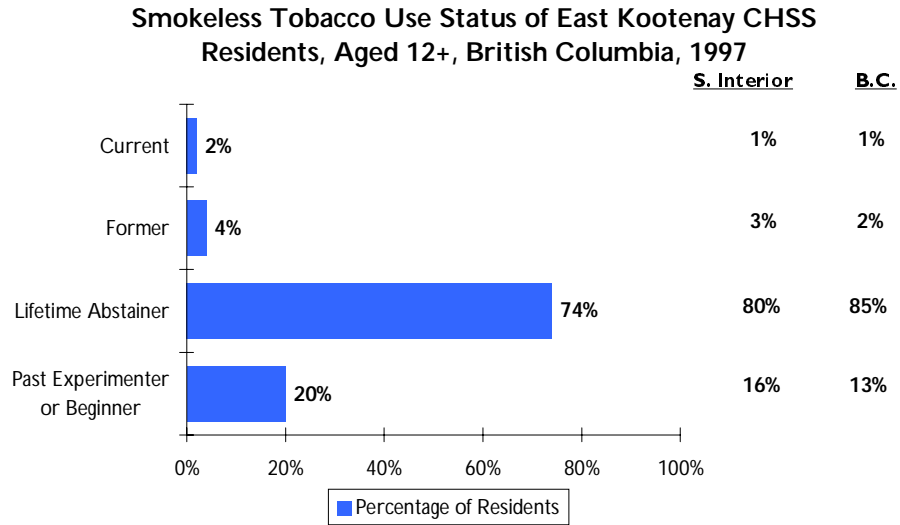
### Smokeless Tobacco Use Status

Smokeless tobacco use (i.e., snuff, pinch & chewing tobacco) among East Kootenay residents was treated similarly with four user groups identified: current (daily & non-daily), former, lifetime abstainer, and past experimenter/beginner (See graph).

The current prevalence of smokeless tobacco use among the residents of the East Kootenays is just 2%. There are also insufficient numbers of smokeless users to distinguish between daily and non-daily use. This very low prevalence of smokeless tobacco use is also apparent in both the Southern Interior region and the entire province.

Former users of smokeless tobacco products represent only 4% of all East Kootenay residents, while residents who have never used smokeless tobacco represent fully 94% of the population aged 12+ years. As shown in the graph this never user group includes lifetime abstainers (74%) and past experimenters or beginners (20%). The percentage of past experimenters/beginners in the East Kootenays is slightly higher than the survey

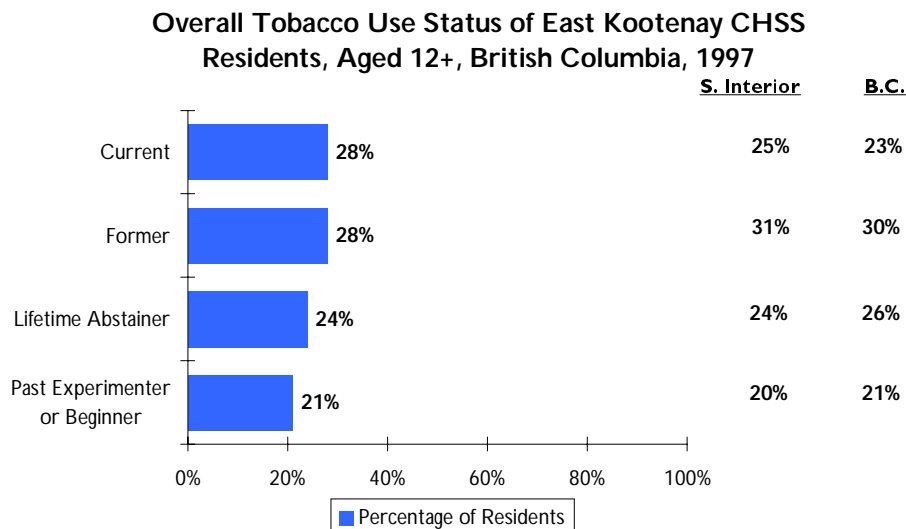
findings for the Southern Interior region and the province as a whole, while the proportion of lifetime abstainers is lower.



### 8.3.3 Overall Tobacco Use Status

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

Non-use is presently the norm among residents of the East Kootenays, with 72% of the aged 12+ population indicating they do not currently use any form of tobacco. On the other hand, the survey does show that 28% of residents are currently using at least one form of tobacco. Former tobacco users also represent 28% of the East Kootenay population, while never users include past experimenters or beginners at 21% and lifetime abstainers at 24%. As shown in the graph, these findings are similar to that found elsewhere in province, with the exception of the prevalence rate of current users at 28% is slightly higher than the regional rate of 25% and the provincial rate of 23%.



## 8.4 Social Demographics of Tobacco Use

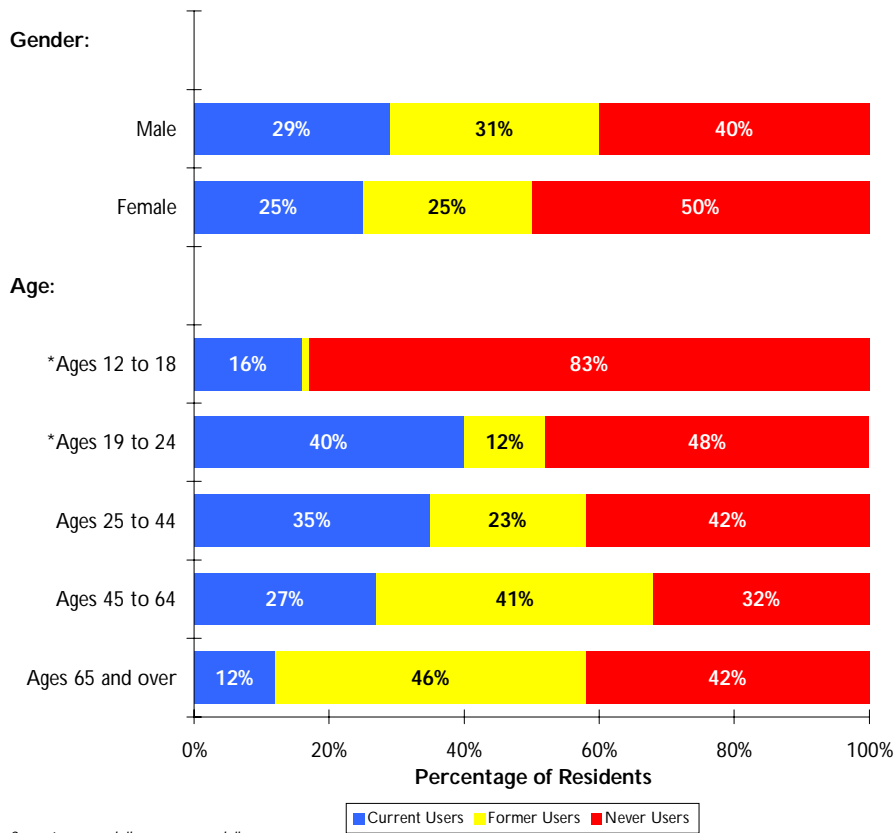
In this section, use of any form of tobacco (i.e., current, former vs. never) has been cross tabulated against a range of social demographic characteristics of residents, in order to demonstrate a number of social and economic variations in tobacco usage. As already outlined in *Overall Tobacco Use Status*, 28% of all East Kootenay residents are current tobacco users, 28% are former users, and 45% are never users.

### 8.4.1 Gender and Age

The following graph highlights differences in tobacco use as a function of gender and age. While there are some differences between male and female residents, age related differences are more apparent. Male residents are slightly more likely than female residents to be both current tobacco users (29% vs. 25%) and former tobacco users (31% vs. 25%). On the other hand, female residents are more likely than male residents to have never been a tobacco user (50% vs. 40%).

In terms of age, current tobacco use is highest among 19 to 24 year olds (40%) and 25 to 44 year olds (35%), and lowest among 12 to 18 year olds (16%) and those aged 65 and over (12%). Being a former user of tobacco rises steadily with age, from 1% among 12 to 18 year olds to 46% among residents aged 65 and over. On the other hand, the proportion of residents who have never used tobacco drops dramatically from 83% of 12 to 18 years olds to 48% of those aged 19 to 24 years. This percentage then remains relatively stable across the 25 to 44, 45 to 64 and 65+ age groupings.

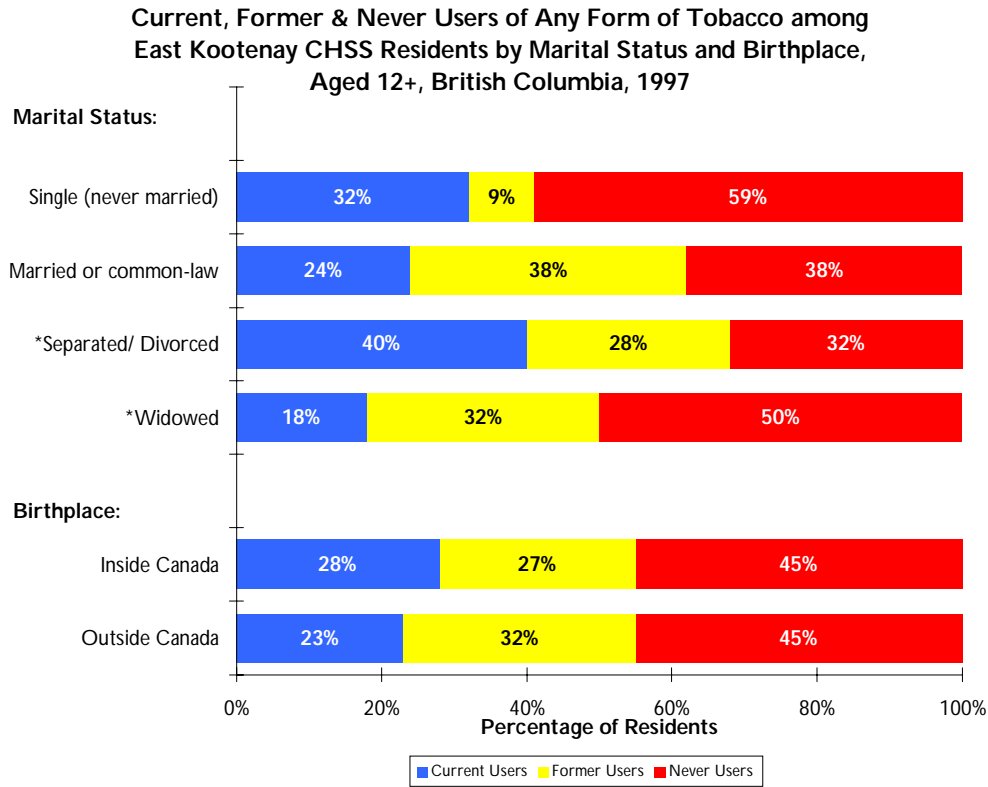
**Current, Former & Never Users of Any Form of Tobacco among East Kootenay CHSS Residents by Gender and Age, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997**



### 8.4.2 Birthplace and Marital Status

The graph below displays the relationship between tobacco use and place of birth, as well as marital status. Whether residents of the East Kootenays are born inside or outside of Canada does not appear to be strongly related to their lifetime experience with tobacco. However, differences in rates of tobacco use are clearly evident, in the graph, as a function of marital status. For instance, the proportion of current users is highest among residents who are separated or divorced (40%), while the proportion of former users is highest among those who are presently married or living common law

(38%). Finally, those residents who have never married (i.e., single) are most likely (59%) to have never been users of tobacco.



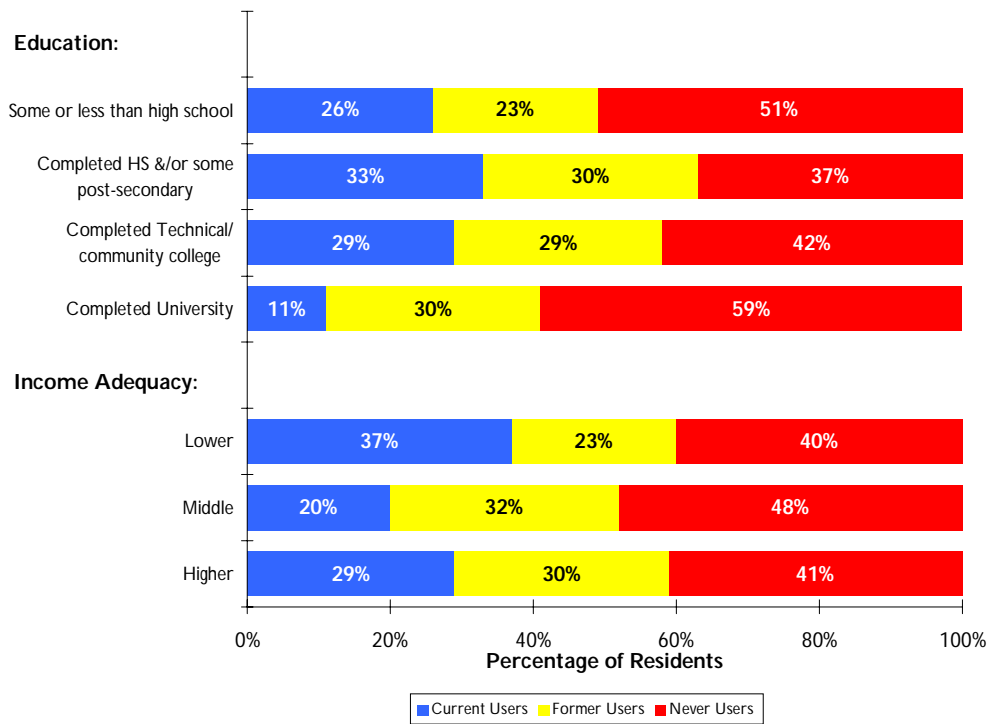
Current users = daily users + non-daily users  
 \*Interpret with caution, subsample base size less than 100.

### 8.4.3 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 residents. A higher proportion of current users is evident among residents with lower income adequacy (37%), and conversely the lowest proportion of current users is found for residents who are university graduates (11%).

Furthermore, the proportion of residents who have never used any form of tobacco is considerably higher among university graduates (59%), than among technical / community college graduates (42%) and high school graduates (37%).

**Current, Former & Never Users of Any Form of Tobacco among East Kootenay CHSS Residents by Education & Income Adequacy, British Columbia, 1997**

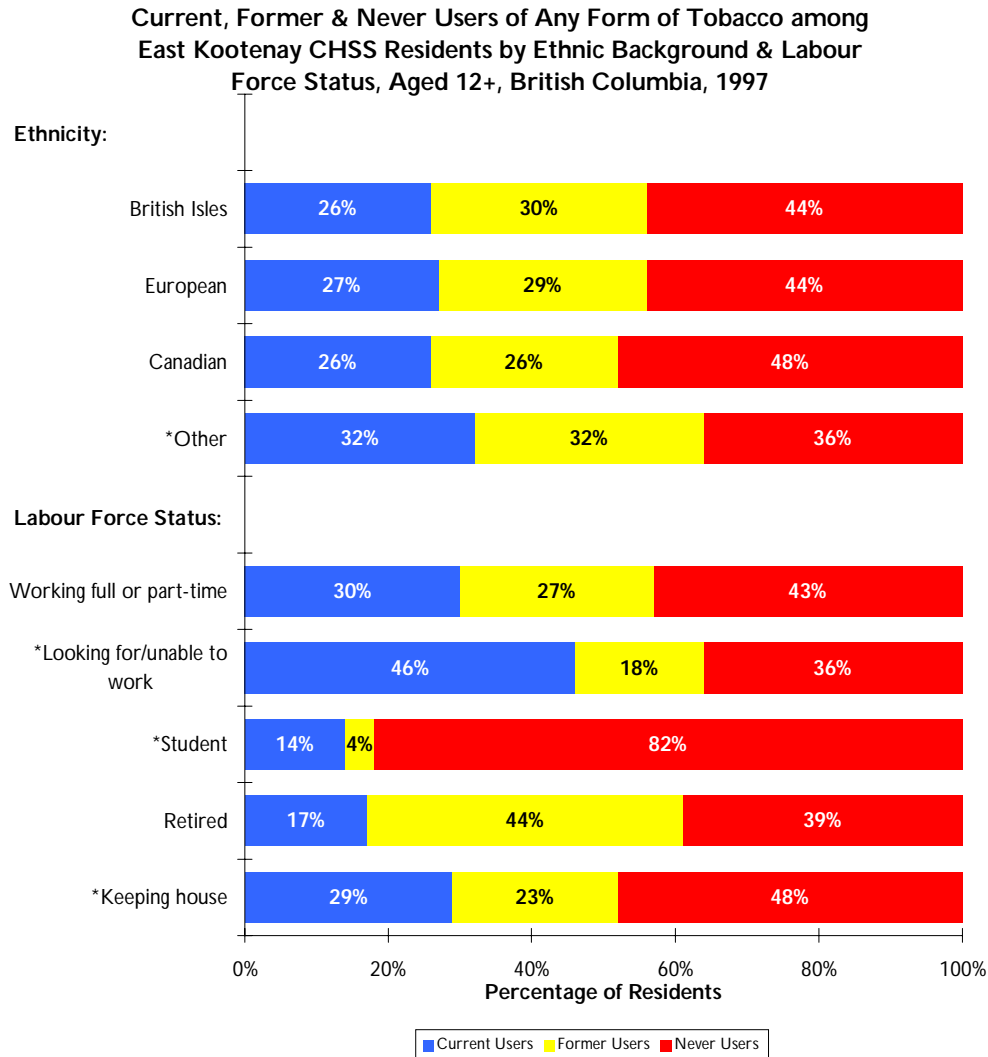


### 8.4.4 Ethnicity and Labour Force Status

The graph below exhibits the relationship between tobacco use and residents' ethnic/cultural background, as well as the labour force status of residents at the time of the survey. Variations in tobacco use according to ethnic/cultural grouping are relatively minor. However given the small sample numbers for some of the ethnic groupings, these survey findings seem less certain.

Variations in tobacco use according to labour force status are more apparent from the graph. For example, among East Kootenay residents who are either looking for work or who are unable to work the proportion of current users is 46%. By contrast, the proportion of current users among those working full or part-time is just 30%. Current use of any form of tobacco by students and retired residents is very low (14% and 17%

respectively), but these proportions are largely attributable to the age of these residents, rather than their labour force status.



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

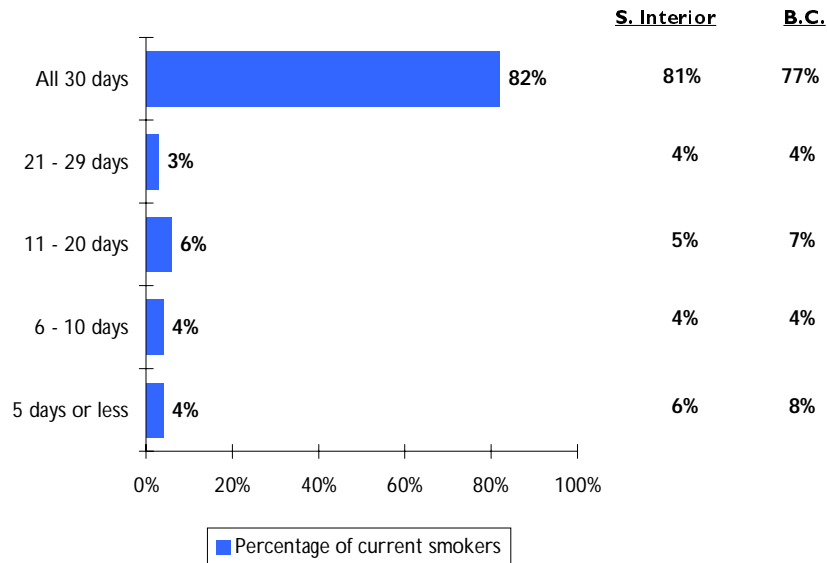
## **8.5 Frequency of Cigarette Smoking among Current Users**

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.

### **8.5.1 Days Smoked in Past Month**

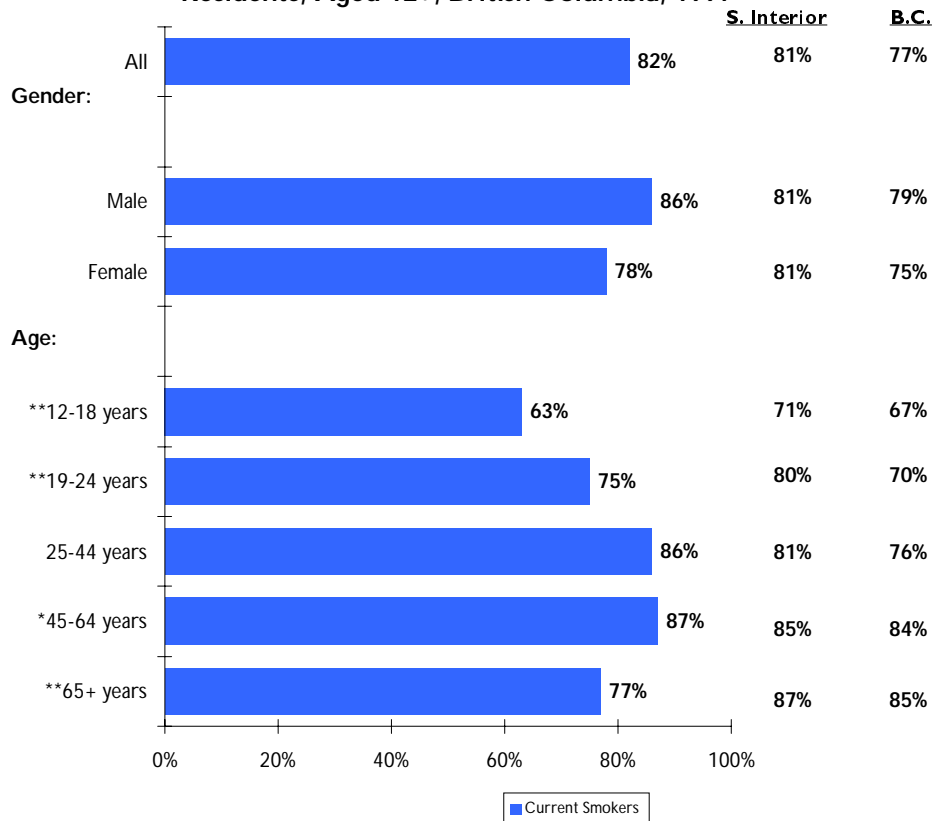
The number of days in the past month in which current cigarette smokers in the East Kootenays had at least one cigarette is displayed in the graph following. Very infrequent smoking, such as on 5 or fewer days per month is reported by only 4% of smokers, while smoking on all 30 days during the past month was reported by fully 82% of current cigarette smokers. This rate for every day smoking is slightly higher than that found across the province (77%), but about the same as in the Southern Interior region (81%).

**Days Smoked in the Past month among Current Cigarette Smokers, East Kootenay CHSS Residents, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997**



As shown in the following graph, males are generally more likely to report smoking on all 30 days in the past month (i.e., are daily smokers) than are females (86% vs. 78%). Similarly, smoking on all 30 days during the past month is lowest among 12 to 18 year old cigarette smokers (63%) and then rises with each aging grouping to a high of 87% for ages 45 to 64, and then declines slightly for ages 65+ years (77%). These differences in percentages are generally consistent with those reported by cigarette smokers in the Southern Interior region and in the province. It does, however, seem noteworthy that every day smoking in the East Kootenays is slightly higher than in the province amongst males (86% vs. 79%) and those 25-44 years of age (86% vs. 76%) but lower amongst those 65 years and over (77% vs 85%).

**Every Day Smoking in the Past month among Current Cigarette Smokers by Gender & Age, East Kootenay CHSS Residents, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997**

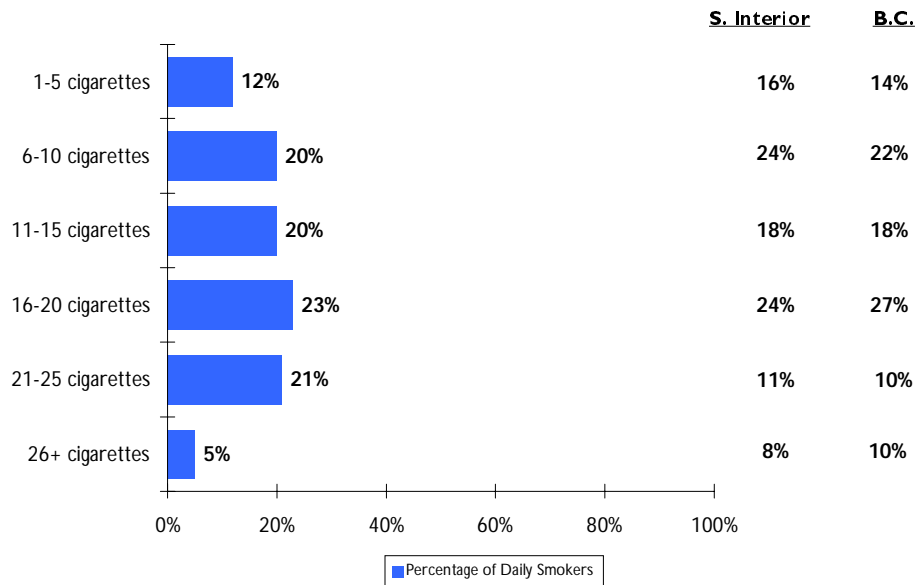


Current cigarette smokers = daily smokers + non-daily smokers  
 \*Interpret with caution, subsample base size less than 100.  
 \*\*Interpret with extreme caution, subsample base size less than 50.

### 8.5.2 Cigarettes per Day by Daily Smokers

Among daily cigarette smokers in the East Kootenays only 12% report averaging 5 or fewer cigarettes per day, but as can be seen in the graph below, 26% report averaging more than 20 cigarettes per day. The average number cigarettes smoked per day by daily cigarette smokers in the East Kootenays is 16.6. This average number is very similar to the averages for daily cigarette smokers in the Southern Interior region (15.9 per day) and for the entire province (16.6 per day).

**Average Number of Cigarettes per Day among Daily Cigarette Smokers, East Kootenay CHSS Residents, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997**



Averages: CHSS=16.6; Region = 15.9; B.C. = 16.6

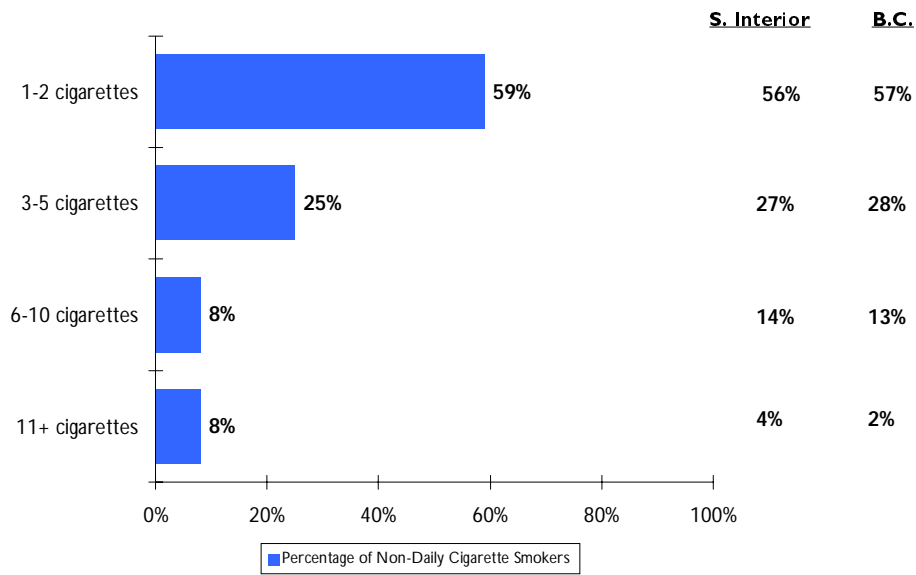
As shown in the table below, on average males smoke more per day than females (17.8 vs. 15.2). Additionally, the average number of cigarettes per day is highest in the 45 to 64 year age grouping (18.9), and lowest in the 12 to 18 age group (9.9). Both these gender and age differences are apparent for the Southern Interior region and for the province as a whole.

Average Number of Cigarettes per Day Among Daily Cigarette Smokers by Gender & Age, East Kootenay CHSS Residents, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997			
	East Kootenay CHSS	S. Interior	B.C.
All	16.6	15.9	16.6
<b>Gender:</b>			
Male	17.8	17.3	18.2
Female	15.2	14.5	15.0
<b>Age:</b>			
**12-18 years	9.9	9.0	10.5
**19-24 years	15.4	13.0	13.3
25-44 years	17.1	17.2	16.8
*45-64 years	18.9	18.3	19.2
**65+ years	14.6	15.1	17.1
*Interpret with caution, subsample base size less than 100.			
**Interpret with extreme caution, subsample base size less than 50.			

### 8.5.3 Cigarettes per Day by Non-Daily Smokers

The number of cigarettes smoked per day by non-daily cigarette smokers in the East Kootenays (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. By contrast, fully 59% of these smokers report having only 1 to 2 per day, 25% report having 3 to 5 per day, and just 8% 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 5.0. These percentages are consistent with those of other non-daily cigarette smokers in the Southern Interior region and the province (see graph).

**Average Number of Cigarettes per Day on Smoking Days  
among Non-Daily Cigarette Smokers‡, East Kootenay  
CHSS Residents, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997**



Averages: CHSS=5.0; Region=4.0; B.C.=3.5

‡Interpret with extreme caution, total base size less than 50.

## 8.6 Age of Initiation for Tobacco Use

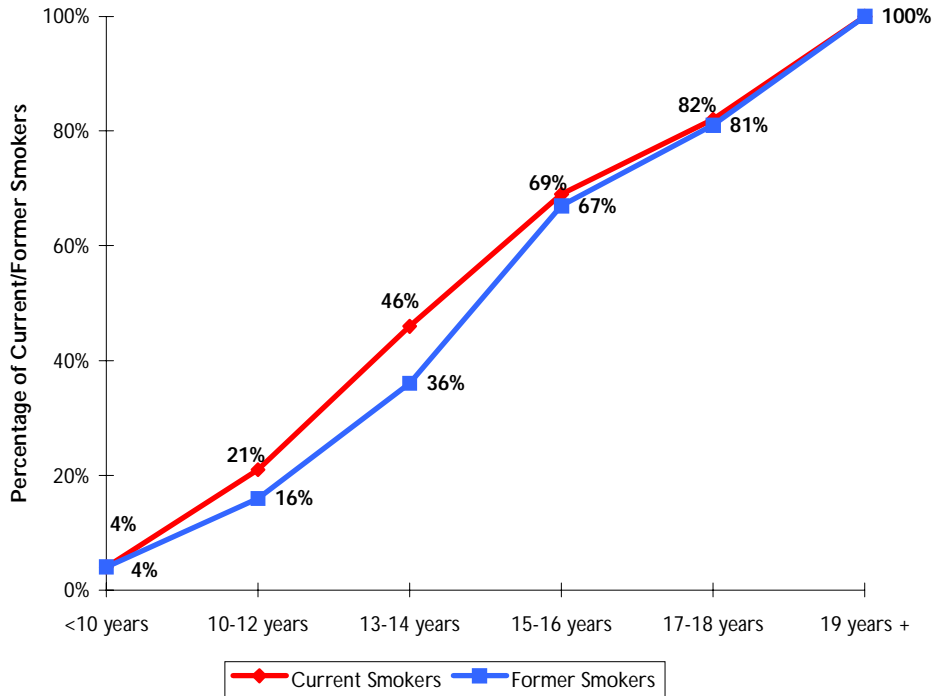
Both former and current users of tobacco identified by the survey were asked their age when they first started using various tobacco products. In the case of cigarettes, they were asked either their age when they smoked their first whole cigarette (if aged 12 to 19 years), or alternatively, their age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

### 8.6.1 Age of Initiation for Cigarette Smoking

The cumulative age of initiation for cigarette smoking among residents of the East Kootenays is displayed in the graph for current and former cigarette smokers. The pattern of responses for former and current smokers are similar, with the exception of starting before age 15 where current smokers are more likely to have started than former smokers (46% vs. 36%). To elaborate, among **current** cigarette smokers, 21% began smoking before the age of 13, 46% began smoking before age 15 and 82% began smoking before age 19. The average age of initiation for those East Kootenay residents who currently smoke cigarettes is 15.7 years. This pattern of responses is similar among **former** cigarette smokers, with 16% indicating they began smoking before the age of 13, 36% began before age 15 and 81% began before age 19. The average age of initiation among former cigarette smokers is 16.1 years.

**Cumulative Distribution for Age of Initiation among Current & Former Cigarette Smokers, East Kootenay CHSS Residents, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997**

- Age when smoked first cigarette or started smoking cigarettes -



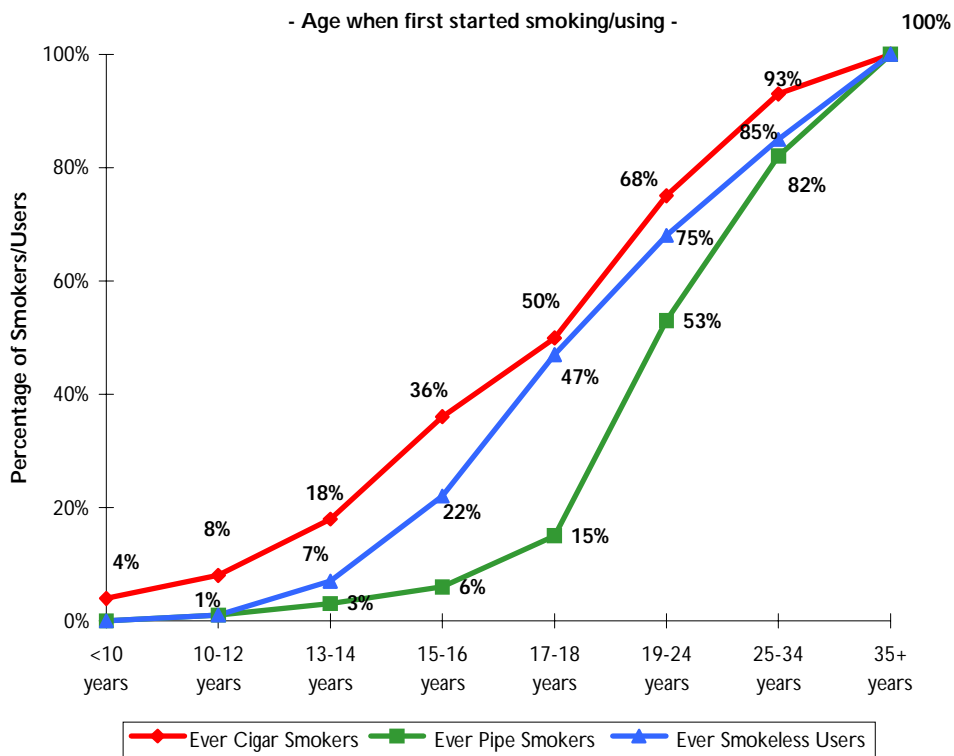
As shown in the table below, these average ages for the onset of cigarette smoking are nearly identical to those observed in the Southern Interior region and in the entire province.

Average Age of Initiation among Current & Former Cigarette Smokers, East Kootenay CHSS Residents, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997			
	East Kootenay CHSS	S. Interior	B.C.
	Years	Years	Years
Current	15.7	15.6	15.7
Former	16.1	16.2	16.4

### 8.6.2 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 East Kootenays who have ever used (current + former) cigars, pipes and smokeless tobacco are displayed in the graph below.

**Cumulative Frequency Distribution for Age of Initiation among Ever Cigar Smokers, Ever Pipe Smokers† & Ever Smokeless Users†, East Kootenay CHSS Residents, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997**



Ever = Current & Former

†Interpret with caution, total base size less than 100.

Among those East Kootenay residents who have ever smoked cigars, just 8% began smoking cigars before age 13, 50% began before age 19, 75% began before age 25, and 93% began before age 35. Compared to cigarette smoking, the average age of onset for

cigar smoking is somewhat older at 20.3 years and this is just slightly lower than the averages found for cigar smoking in the Southern Interior region (22.6 years) and the province (22.8 years).

For East Kootenay residents who have ever smoked pipe tobacco, just 1% began smoking before age 13, 15% began before age 19, 53% began before age 25, and 82% began before age 35. The average age of onset for pipe smoking is even older than that for cigars at 25.7 years. This is very close to the average ages found in the Southern Interior region (25.1 years) and the province (24.6 years).

Among those residents of the East Kootenays who have ever used smokeless tobacco, just 1% began before age 13, 47% began before age 19, 68% began before age 25, and 85% began before age 35. The average age of onset for smokeless tobacco use is in-between that of pipes and cigars, at 22.6 years. This average age for the onset of smokeless tobacco use is also in keeping with the averages for the Southern Interior region (21.7 years) and for the entire province (21.8 years).

Average Age of Initiation among Ever Cigar Smokers, Ever Pipe Smokers† & Ever Smokeless Users†, East Kootenay CHSS Residents, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997			
	East Kootenay CHSS	S. Interior	B.C.
	Years	Years	Years
Ever Cigar Smoker	20.3	22.6	22.8
Ever Pipe Smoker	25.7	25.1	24.6
Ever Smokeless User	22.6	21.7	21.8

*†Interpret with caution, total base size less than 100.*

## **8.7 Exposure to Environmental Tobacco Smoke (ETS) among Non-Smokers**

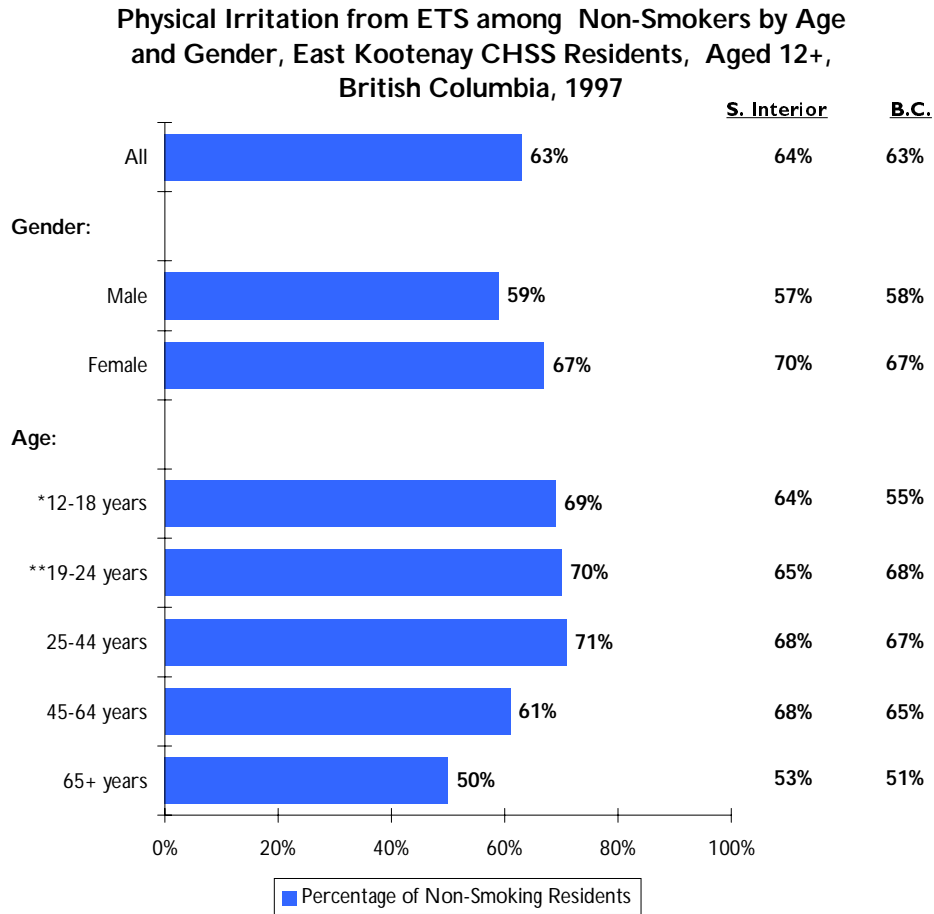
In addition to inquiring directly about tobacco use, the survey also asked residents of the East Kootenays about their exposure to environmental tobacco smoke (ETS), sometimes known as secondhand smoke, in their own homes, at work and school and in other public places. Being exposed to ETS was defined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

### **8.7.1 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. Almost two-thirds (63%) of non-smokers (i.e., those East Kootenay residents who do not currently use cigarettes, cigars or a pipe) report they are usually physically irritated by ETS. Interestingly, even one-third of current smokers report physical irritation.

Some gender differences in the proportion of non-smokers are evident with 59% of males versus 67% of females indicating they are usually irritated by ETS. Age related differences are also evident with about 70% of non-smokers under the age of 45 being irritated by ETS, yet this proportion then declines steadily with age to just 50% among non-smokers aged 65 and over. As displayed in the graph, this general pattern of findings is also reflected in the survey data for the Southern Interior region and the province with the exception of non-smokers under the age of 19, where the percentage for the East Kootenay (69%) and Southern Interior (64%) are higher than that for the province (55%).

By contrast, there are no substantial differences in the proportion of non-smoking residents who are irritated by ETS as a function of other demographic descriptors.



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

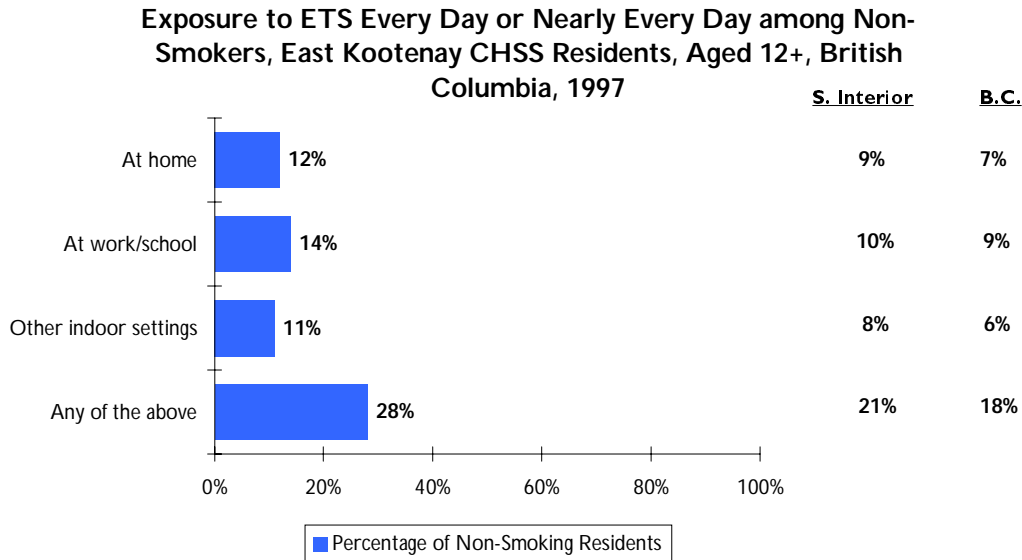
*\*Interpret with caution, subsample base size less than 100.*

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

### 8.7.2 Overall Exposure to ETS

The graph below combines some of the survey findings concerning exposure to ETS for non-smoking residents of the East Kootenays. 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 graph shows that 28% of non-smoking residents are exposed to ETS daily or nearly daily in at least one of these three different types of settings. This proportion is higher than

that observed for the Southern Interior region (21%) and for the province as a whole (18%). It seems especially noteworthy that the 28% of non-smoking residents, who are exposed to ETS daily or nearly daily, translates into 20% of all East Kootenay residents.

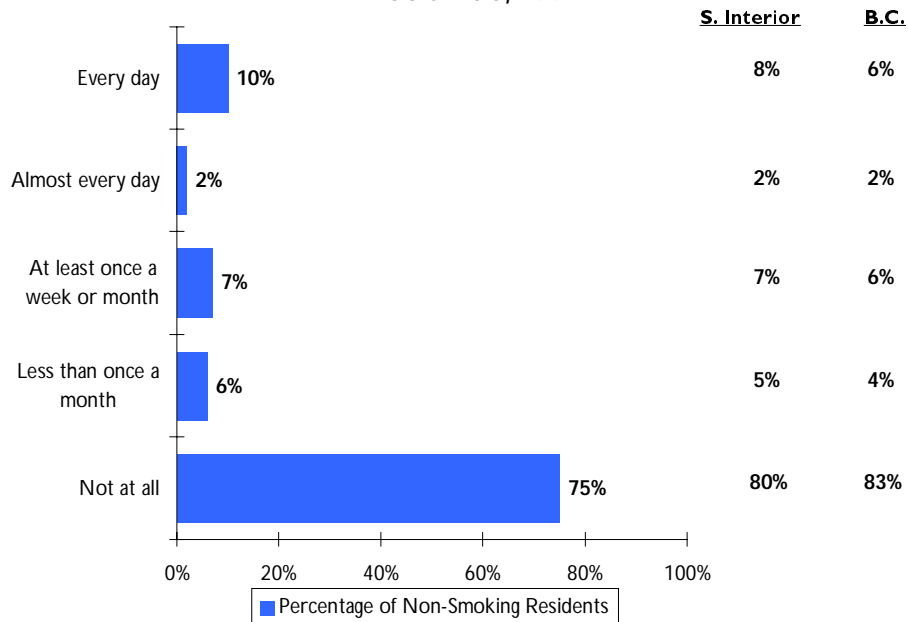


*Non-smoking residents = those who do not currently smoke cigarettes, cigars or pipes*

### 8.7.3 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 graph to follow, 12% of non-smokers in the East Kootenays report being exposed to ETS inside their home on a daily or nearly daily basis. On the other hand, 75% report no exposure to ETS at all in their homes. Non-smokers in the East Kootenays have slightly higher ETS exposure levels than their counterparts in the Southern Interior region, as well as the whole province.

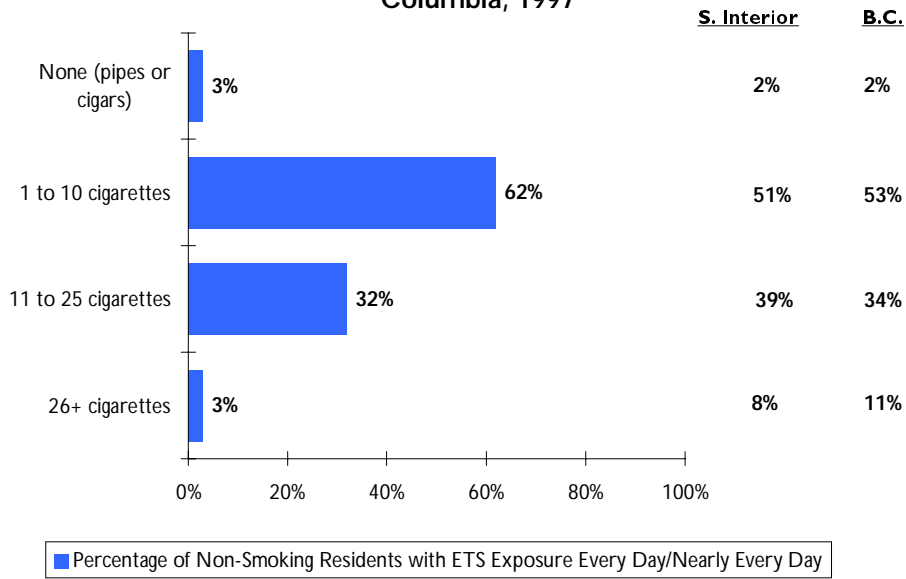
**Frequency of Exposure to ETS at Home among Non-Smokers, East Kootenay CHSS Residents, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997**



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

East Kootenay 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. Sixty-two percent of these residents indicated they are exposed to smoke from 1 to 10 cigarettes per day and 32% 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 11.5, and as shown in the graph to follow, this average is slightly lower than for other non-smokers in the Southern Interior region (14.0) and the province (14.3).

**Number of Cigarettes Smoked Inside Home among Non-Smokers with Every Day or Nearly Every Day Exposure to ETS†, East Kootenay CHSS Residents, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997**

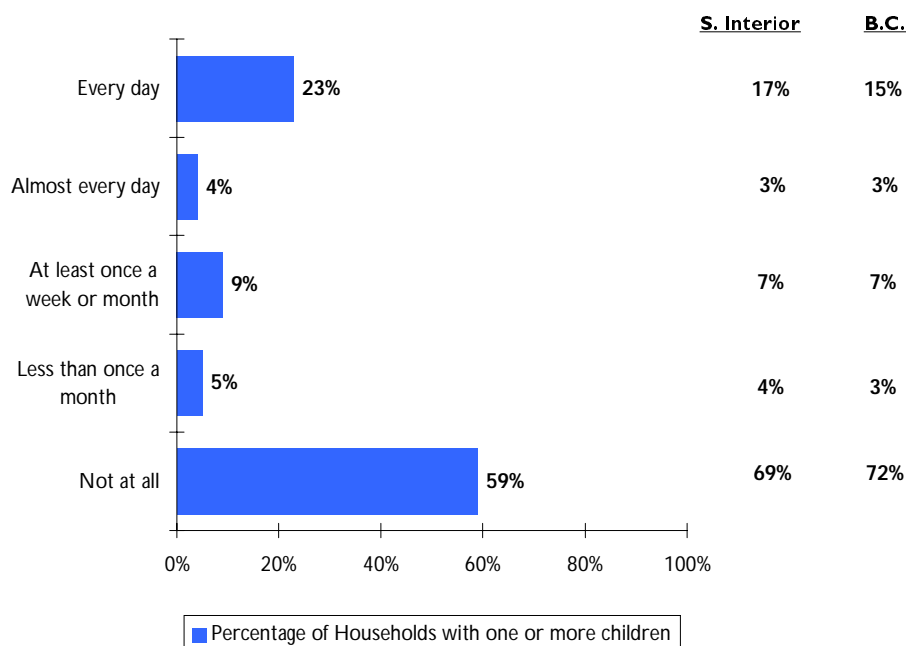


**Average: East Kootenay CHSS = 11.5; Region = 14.0; B.C. = 14.3**

*†Interpret with caution, total base size less than 100.*

Households with Children: ETS exposure in East Kootenay households with children age 11 and under are highlighted in the graph below. In 27% of these households there is daily or nearly daily exposure to ETS, and in 59% there is no ETS exposure at all. These percentages are slightly different, and less positive, than are found for households with children in the Southern Interior region (20% - daily/nearly daily, 69% - not at all) and in the whole province (18% - daily/nearly daily, 72% - not at all).

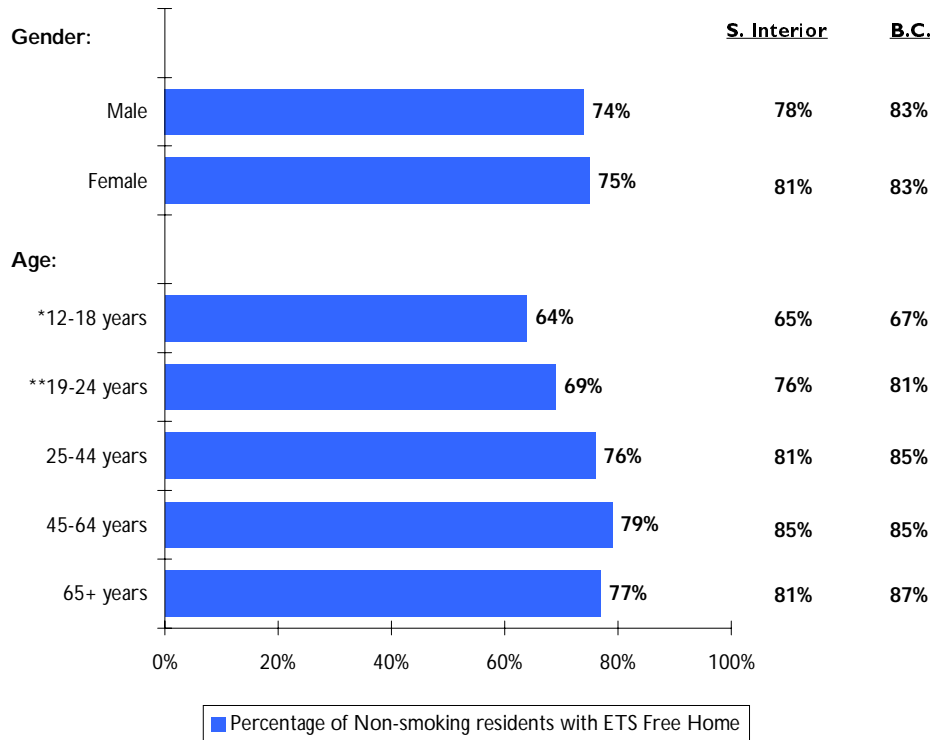
**Frequency of Exposure to ETS in Homes with Children Aged  
11 Years and Under, East Kootenay CHSS Residents, Aged  
12+, British Columbia, 1997**



For those households with children aged 11 and under, and which have daily or nearly daily exposure to ETS, the average number of cigarettes smoked inside the home on a typical day is 16.1. This average is marginally less than that found for such households in the Southern Interior region (18.1) and the province (18.2).

ETS Free Households Non-smoking residents of the East Kootenays who live in households with no ETS exposure at all are equally likely to be male or female (74% vs. 75%), but as shown in the graph, this probability tends to vary depending on the age of the resident. For instance, just 64% of 12 to 18 year old non-smoking residents live in households with no ETS exposure at all, but this percentage rises to 79% among non-smokers age 45 to 64 years and 77% among non-smokers 65 years and over.

**Non-Smokers with ETS Free Households by Gender & Age,  
East Kootenay CHSS Residents, Aged 12+, British  
Columbia, 1997**



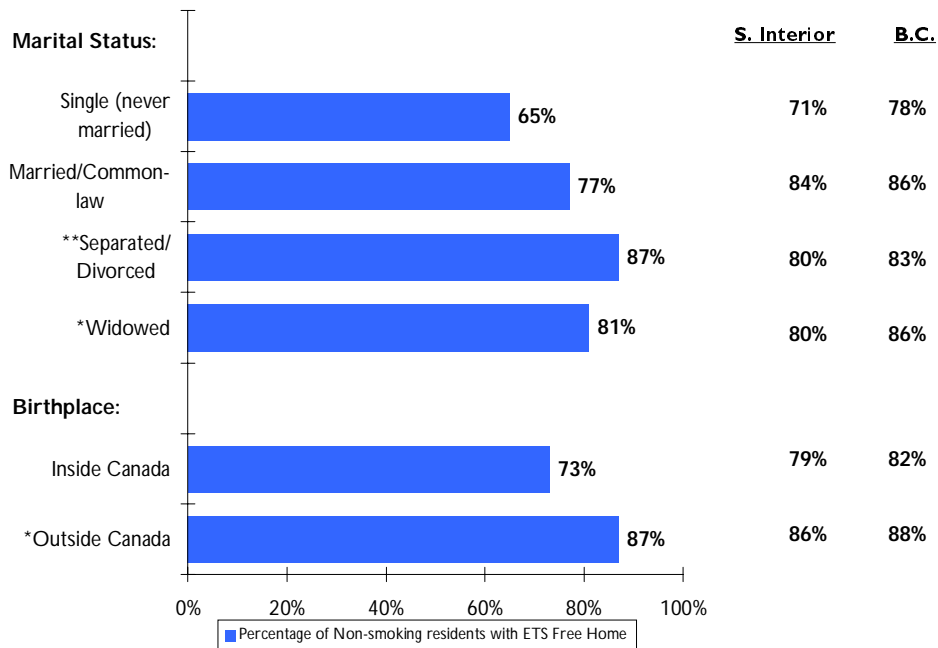
Non-smoking residents = those who do not currently smoke cigarettes, cigars or pipes.

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

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

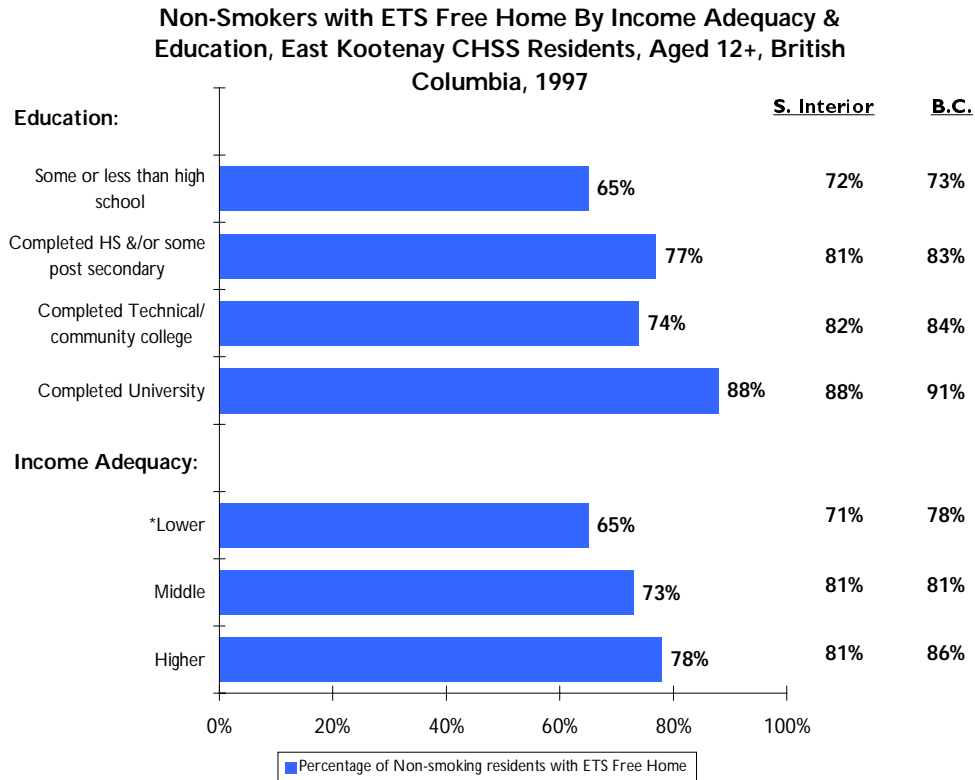
Non-smokers living in a household with no ETS exposure at all are more likely among East Kootenay residents who were born outside of Canada, in comparison to those born in Canada (87% vs. 73%). Similarly, as shown in the following graph, single non-smoking residents are least likely to live in household with no ETS exposure at all (65%), compared to non-smokers who are either married (77%), separated/divorced (87%) or widowed (81%).

**Non-Smokers with ETS Free Home by Marital Status & Birthplace,  
East Kootenay CHSS Residents, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997**



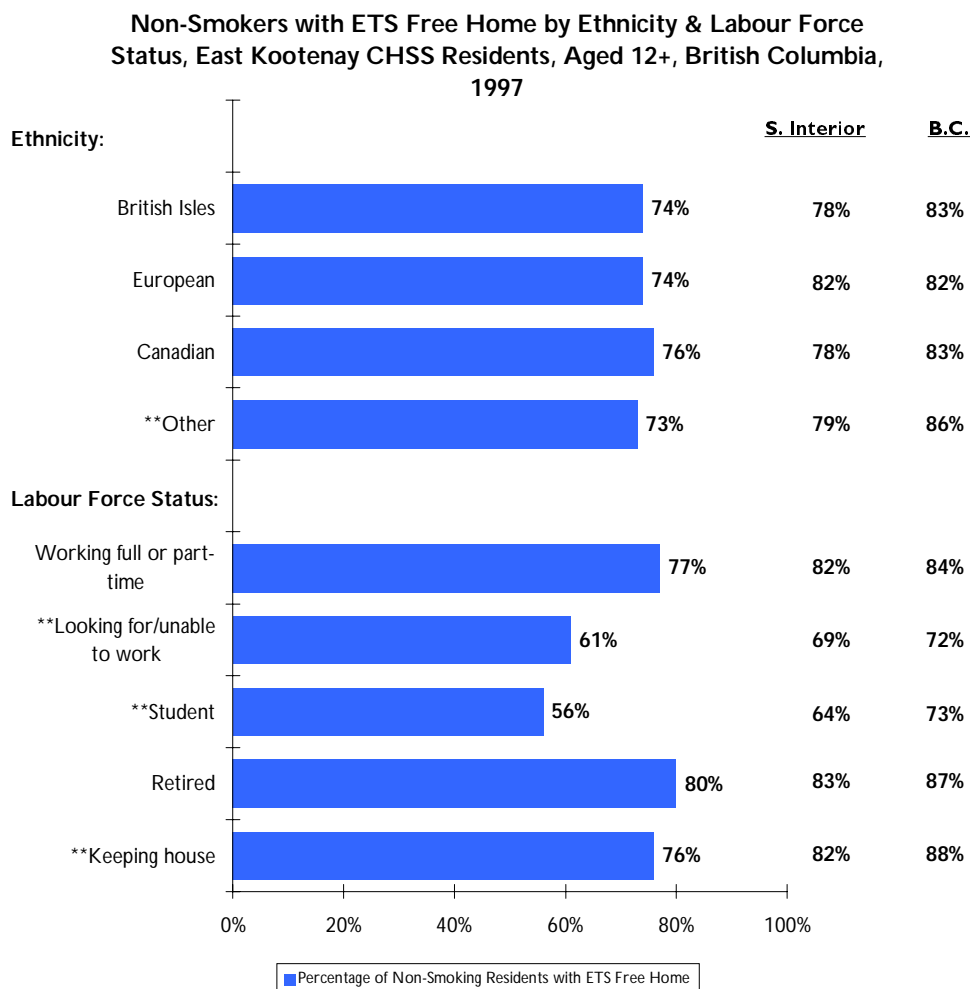
Non-smoking residents = those who do not currently smoke cigarettes, cigars or pipes  
 \*Interpret with caution, subsample base size less than 100.  
 \*\*Interpret with extreme caution, subsample base size less than 50.

The probability of non-smokers living in an ETS free household is also associated with the income adequacy of the household, and their educational achievements. As exhibited in the graph below, just 65% of non-smoking residents with lower income adequacy live in households without any ETS exposure at all, but this percentage rises to 78% among non-smokers with higher income adequacy. A similar difference is apparent between residents with less than a high school education (65%) and those who are university graduates (88%).



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

The graph below displays the same relationship for the ethnicity and labour force status of East Kootenay residents who do not smoke. For the most part, ethnic group membership appears to be unrelated to whether or not East Kootenay non-smoking residents live in a household with no ETS exposure at all. However, small sample numbers for some ethnic groups preclude a definitive answer. On the other hand, differences between labour force groupings are more 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 (56% and 61% respectively). Conversely, residents who are presently employed or are retired are most likely to live in an ETS free household (77% and 80%, respectively).



*Non-smoking residents = those who do not currently smoke cigarettes, cigars or pipes*

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

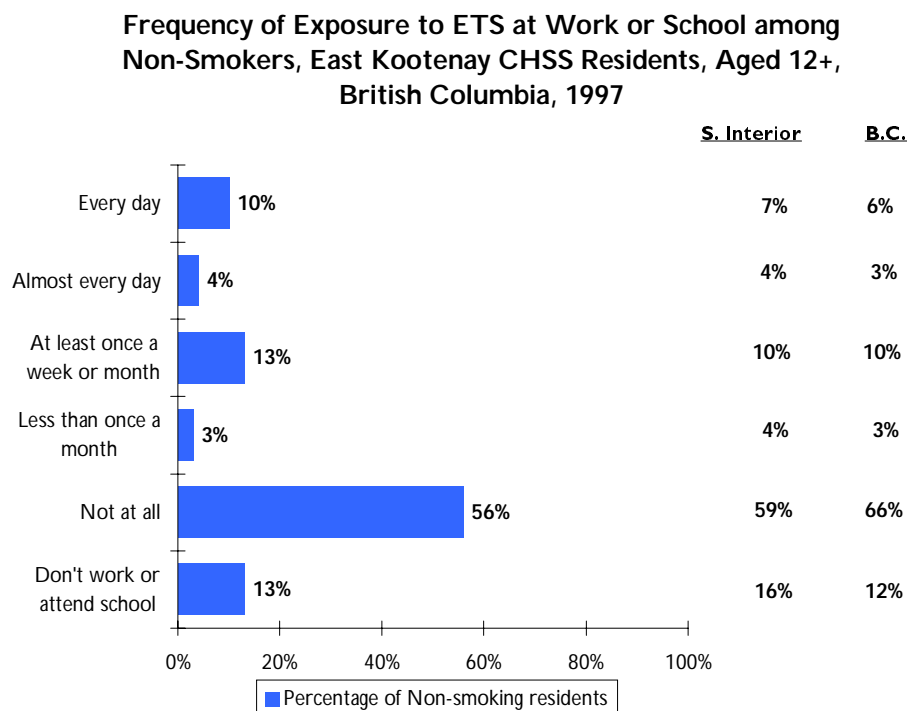
*\*\*Interpret with extreme caution, subsample base size less than 50.*

### 8.7.4 Exposure to ETS at Work or School

Non-smokers in the East Kootenays 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 to follow, 14% of non-smokers report exposure to ETS every day or nearly every day when at work or school, while 56% say they are not exposed to ETS

at all. This latter percentage is keeping with the survey findings for the entire Southern Interior region (59%) but is lower than that for the province (66%).



*Non-smoking residents = those who do not currently smoke cigarettes, cigars or pipes*

Both female residents, and those who are university graduates, are somewhat more likely to report not being exposed to any ETS while at work or attending school (62% and 68% respectively). By comparison, other demographic descriptors appear to be unrelated to whether or not the non-smoking residents of the East Kootenays are exposed to ETS at work or school (data not shown).

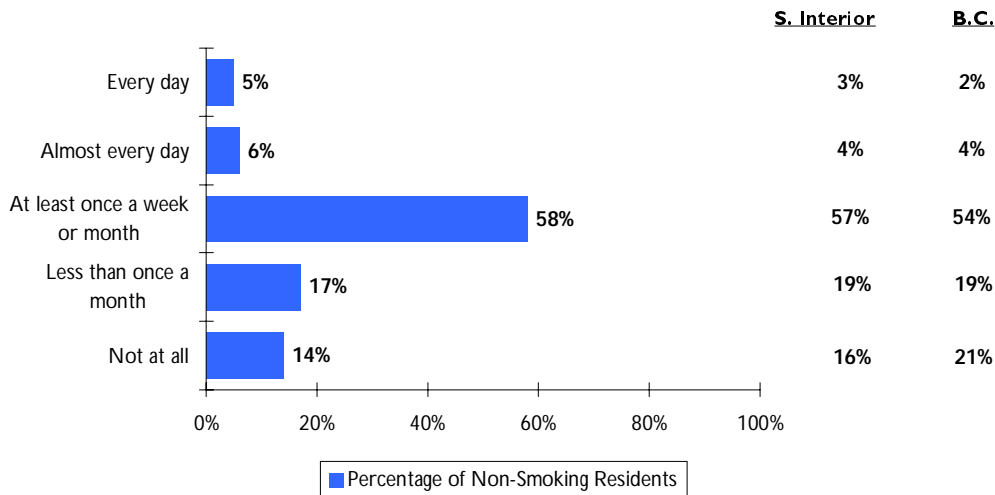
### 8.7.5 Exposure to ETS in Other Indoor Settings

Finally, all non-smokers in the East Kootenays 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 below, 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 residents in the East Kootenays. Daily or nearly daily exposure in such settings was acknowledged by 11% of non-smoking residents. This percentage appears to be slightly higher than for the Southern Interior region generally (8%) and for the province (6%).

**Frequency of Exposure to ETS in other Indoor Settings among Non-Smokers, East Kootenay CHSS Residents, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997**



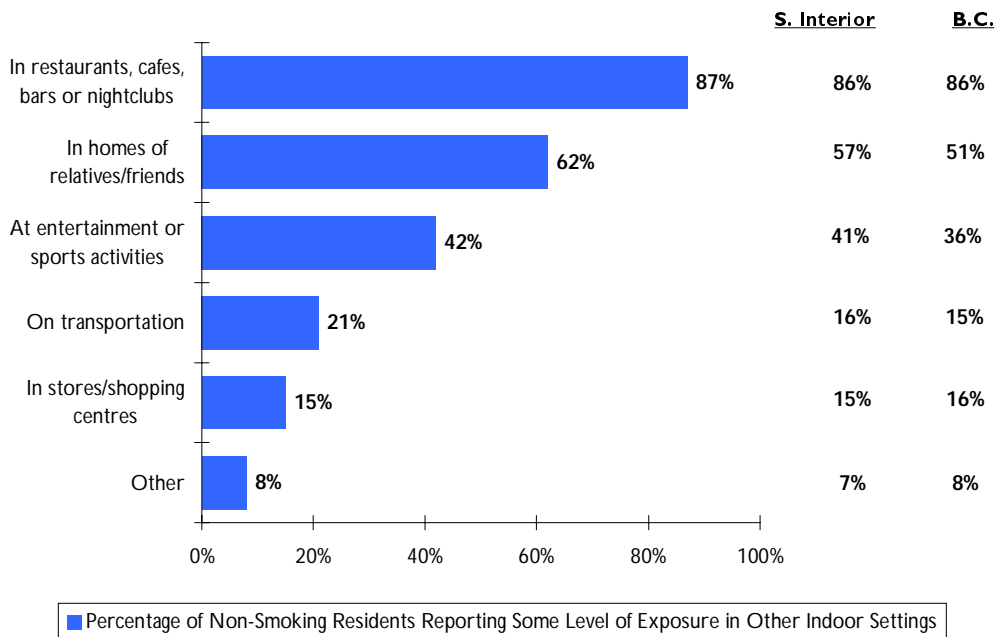
*Non-smoking residents = those who do not currently smoke cigarettes, cigars or pipes*

The 86% of non-smoking residents of the East Kootenays 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 following graph, a higher proportion of non-smoking residents report exposure to ETS in settings such as other people’s homes (62%) and restaurants, cafes,

bars or nightclubs (87%), than they do for transportation (21%) and stores or shopping centres (15%). Moreover, this general pattern of findings is also evident in the survey data for the entire Southern Interior region and for the province.

**Exposure to ETS in Specific Indoor Settings among Non-Smokers, East Kootenay CHSS Residents, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997**



*Non-smoking residents = those who do not currently smoke cigarettes, cigars or pipes*

## 8.8 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+).

	East Kootenay CHSS Sample	Southern Interior Region Sample	British Columbia Sample
	%	%	%
<b>Gender</b>			
Male	51	50	49
Female	49	50	51
<b>Age</b>			
12-19	15	14	13
20-24	9	8	9
25-44	31	29	34
45-64	29	30	28
65+	16	20	17
Average	42.2	44.6	42.8
<b>Marital Status</b>			
Single	31	29	35
Married/Common Law	55	54	49
Separated/Divorced	7	8	8
Widowed	7	8	7
<b>Children</b>			
None	75	76	76
One	11	12	12
Two or more	14	13	12
<b>Education</b>			
Less than High School	9	8	6
Some High School	21	21	16
Completed High School	25	24	23
Some or Completed Technical/Community College	24	21	21
Some University	7	8	10
Completed University	10	10	15
Graduate Degree	4	5	8
<b>Income Adequacy</b>			
Low	6	6	5
Lower-Middle	13	12	10
Middle	28	31	26
Upper-Middle	39	36	38
High	14	15	21

	East Kootenay CHSS Sample	Southern Interior Region Sample	British Columbia Sample
	%	%	%
<b>Labour Force Status</b>			
Working full-time	38	33	41
Working part-time	9	9	9
Self-Employed	10	11	9
Looking for work or unable to work	7	7	6
Student	9	9	10
Retired	21	26	20
Keeping house	5	5	4
<b>Place of Birth</b>			
In Canada	89	87	79
Outside Canada	11	13	21
<b>Ethnicity</b>			
British	51	50	47
European	45	46	38
South Asian	<	1	2
South East Asian	2	2	6
Canadian	15	13	13
Aboriginal	3	4	3
< Less than 0.5%.			

Demographically, the East Kootenay differs from British Columbia on the following:

*Marital Status* - the East Kootenay has more married residents (55% vs. 49%) and fewer single residents (31% vs. 35%);

*Education* - the East Kootenay has more residents with high school or less (55% vs. 45%) and fewer university graduates (14% vs. 23%);

*Income Adequacy* - the East Kootenay has more residents with low income adequacy (19% vs. 15%) and fewer with high income adequacy (53% vs. 59%);

*Place of Birth* - the East Kootenay has more residents born inside Canada (89% vs. 79%) and fewer born outside Canada (11% vs. 21%); and,

*Ethnicity* - the East Kootenay has fewer residents with a South East Asian background (2% vs. 6%) and more with a European background (45% vs. 38%).