

## **8. Vancouver/Richmond RHB Report**

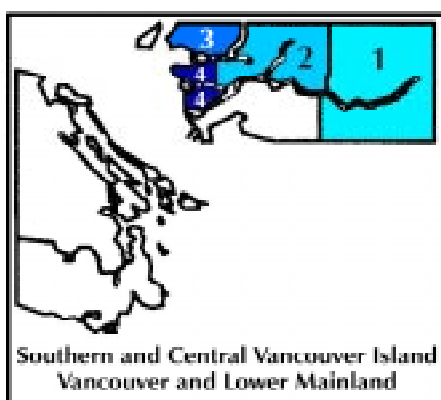
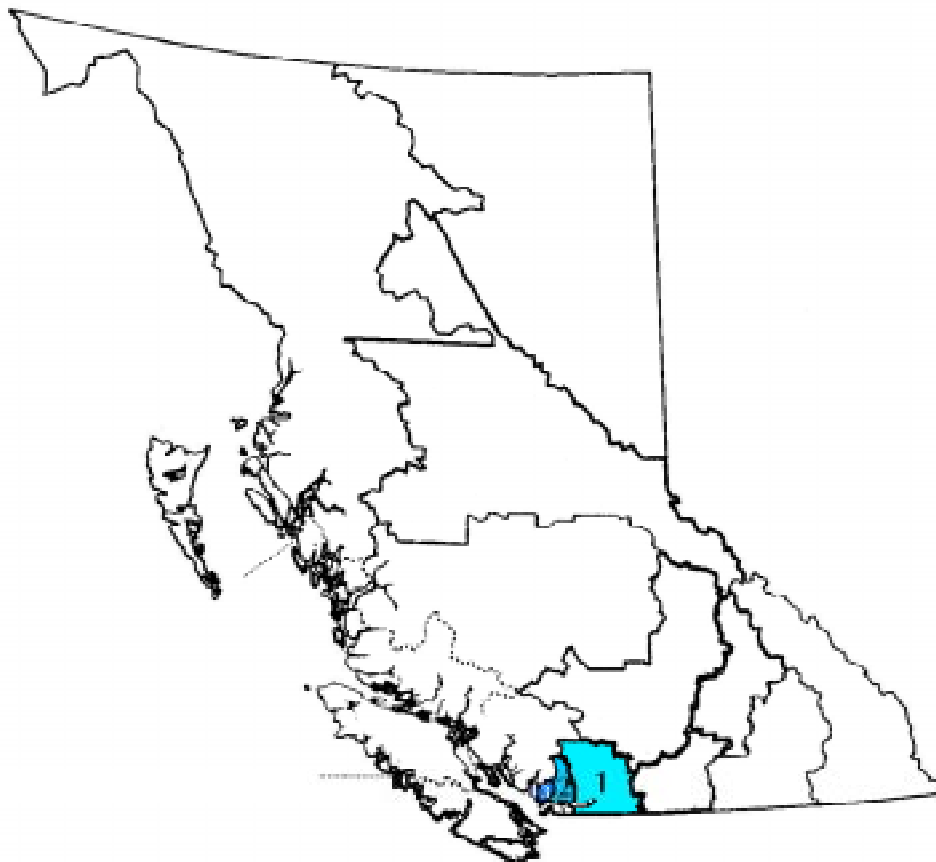
### **8.1 Introduction**

The results presented in this report are based on approximately 1,000 interviews with B.C. residents living within the Vancouver/Richmond Regional Health Board. 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 Vancouver/Richmond have been compared with results for the province overall and a macro region called the Lower Mainland which includes Fraser Valley, South Fraser Valley, Simon Fraser/Burnaby, North Shore, and Vancouver/Richmond.

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**Lower Mainland Region:**

- 1) Fraser Valley
- 2) Simon Fraser
- 3) North Shore
- 4) Vancouver/Richmond

Prepared by: Planning & Evaluation Division, Ministry of Health and Ministry Responsible for Seniors  
Boundary Source: BC STATS, Ministry of Finance and Corporate Relations 21MAY97

## 8.2 Summary

**Tobacco Use** - Current cigarette smokers in the Vancouver/Richmond area make up 21% of residents while former smokers represent 24% and never smokers 55%. The vast majority of current smokers (70%) are daily smokers. The use of other forms of tobacco such as cigars, pipes and smokeless tobacco is very low at 1% or less. In looking at overall tobacco use, 22% of Vancouver/Richmond residents are current users, 25% are former users, 30% are lifetime abstainers and 24% are past experimenters or beginners. The average age of initiation for current and former cigarette smokers is similar (16.4 and 17.1). The average age of initiation is higher for ever users (current and former) of other forms of tobacco – cigars (22.1), pipes (25.0) and smokeless tobacco (22.2).

In the Vancouver/Richmond area certain socio-demographic characteristics are related to tobacco use – age, marital status, country of birth, education and labour force status. For example, residents more likely to be users are those born in Canada and those between the ages 19 to 24.

**ETS** - A total of 66% of non-smokers and 39% smokers report physical irritation to their eyes, breathing or throat due to ETS. Amongst non-smokers, 4% report every day or almost every day ETS exposure at home, 7% at work or school and 4% in other indoor settings. This results in 12% of Vancouver/Richmond non-smoking residents who are exposed to ETS every day or almost every day or the equivalent of 10% of all Vancouver/Richmond residents. In total, 32% of Vancouver/Richmond residents' health is being adversely affected by tobacco (22% through current tobacco use and 10% through ETS).

### **8.3 Tobacco Use Status of Vancouver/Richmond Residents**

Detailed information concerning past and present use of all forms of tobacco, by the residents of Vancouver/Richmond (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).

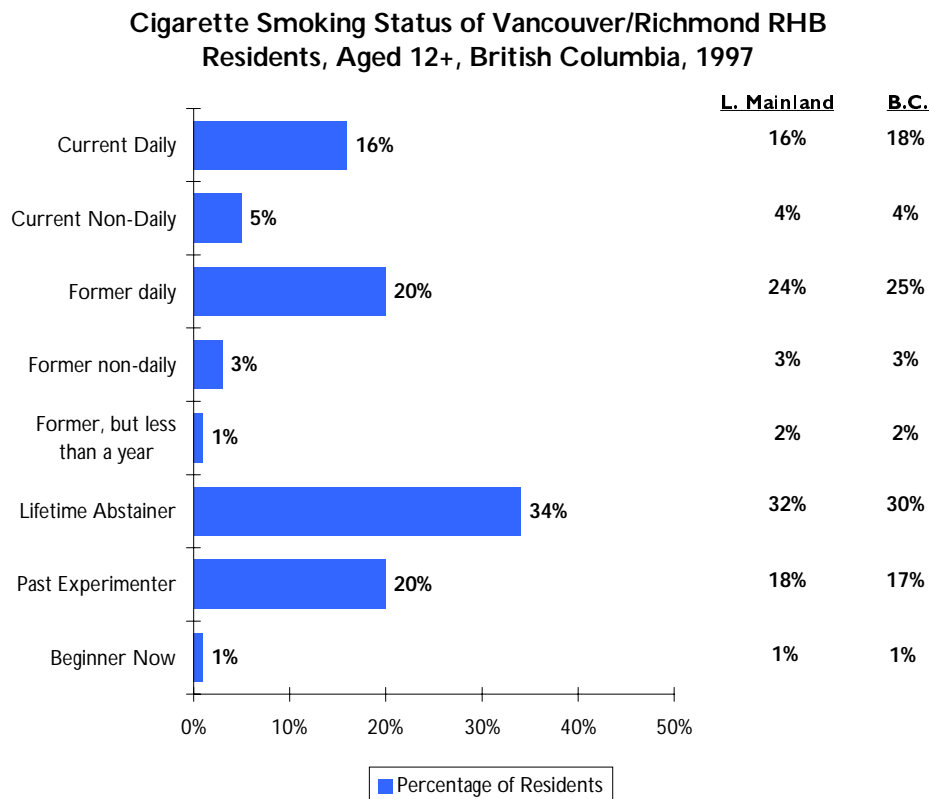
The current prevalence of cigarette smoking among all residents of Vancouver/Richmond (aged 12+), is 21%. Daily users predominate among current cigarette smokers at 16%, while non-daily smokers represent 5% of all residents. As shown in the graph, this prevalence rate is very similar to that found in the Lower Mainland region (20%) and the entire province (22%).

Former cigarette smokers comprise 24% of all Vancouver/Richmond residents. This percentage includes former daily smokers (20%), former non-daily smokers (3%), and former smokers, who quit less than a year ago (1%). There is a smaller proportion of former smokers in Vancouver/Richmond (24%) than is found in the Lower Mainland region (29%) and the entire province (30%).

By contrast, Vancouver/Richmond RHB residents who have never smoked cigarettes represent 55% of the population aged 12+ years. These never users include lifetime

abstainers (34%), past experimenters (20%), and beginners (1%). A comparison of these Vancouver/Richmond percentages with those for the Lower Mainland region and for the entire province indicates a slightly higher proportion of never smokers (55% vs. 51% and 48%).

In sum, current cigarette smokers make up 21% of residents in Vancouver/Richmond, while former smokers represent 24% and never smokers 55%. Overall, the proportion of current smokers is very similar to that found in the Lower Mainland region and the province, but the proportion of former smokers is smaller and the proportion of never smokers is greater.



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

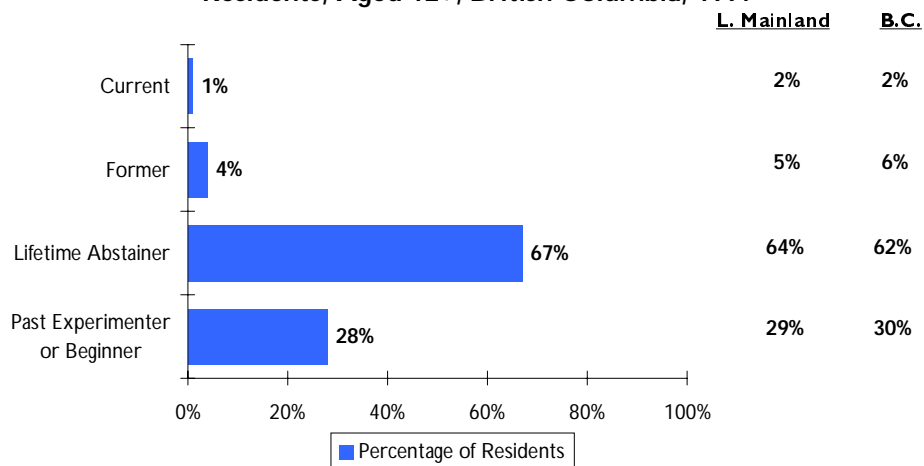
#### **Cigar/Cigarillo Smoking Status**

For cigar smoking among residents of Vancouver/Richmond, 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 Vancouver/Richmond residents is just 1%. 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 Lower Mainland region and provincially, at 2% each.

The graph also shows that former cigar smokers in Vancouver/Richmond represent 4% of residents, while those who have never smoked cigars make up 95% of the residential population. This never user group includes lifetime abstainers (67%) and past experimenters or beginners (28%). These percentages are generally in line with those found for the Lower Mainland region and for the whole province, although Vancouver/Richmond has slightly more lifetime abstainers (67%) than the Lower Mainland region (64%) and the province (62%).

**Cigar/Cigarillo Smoking Status of Vancouver/Richmond RHB Residents, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997**

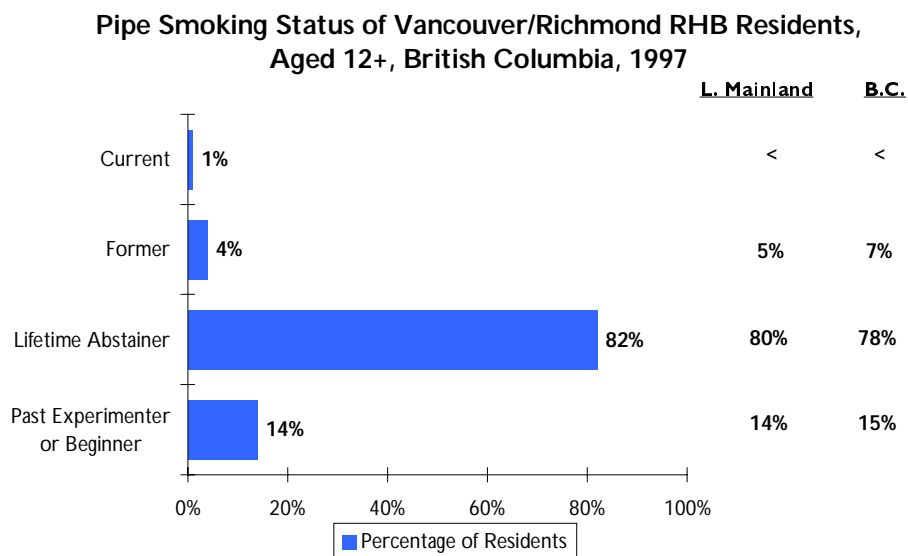


### Pipe Smoking Status

For the smoking of pipe tobacco among Vancouver/Richmond 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 Vancouver/Richmond residents is just 1%. Like cigar smoking, there are insufficient numbers of pipe smokers in Vancouver/Richmond 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 Lower Mainland region and provincially.

The graph also indicates that former pipe smokers in Vancouver/Richmond represent 4% of all residents, while those who have never smoked pipe tobacco make up fully 96% of the residential population. This never user group includes lifetime abstainers (82%) and a smaller group of past experimenters or beginners (14%). These percentages are also in keeping with those found for the Lower Mainland region and for the whole province.



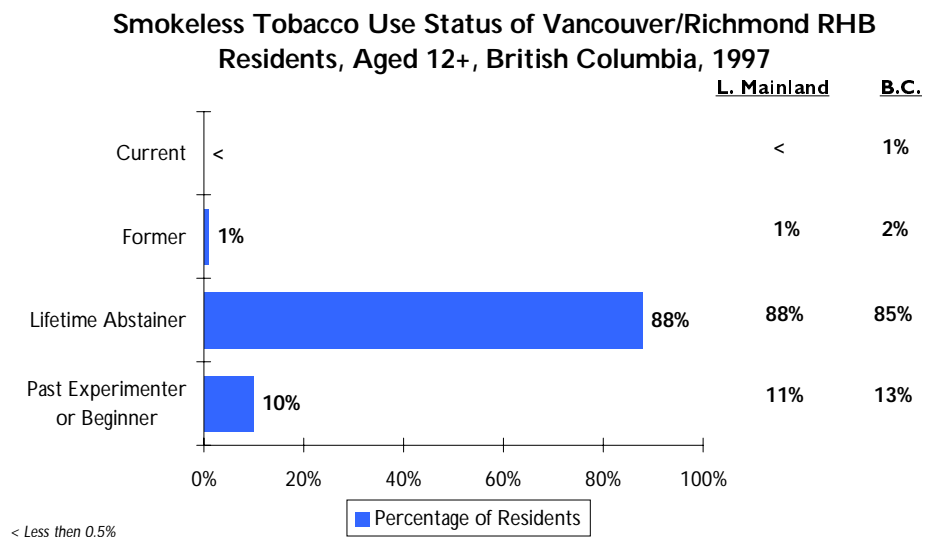
< Less than 0.5%

## **Smokeless Tobacco Use Status**

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

The current prevalence of smokeless tobacco use among the residents of Vancouver/Richmond is less than 0.5%. There are also insufficient numbers of smokeless users to distinguish between daily & non-daily use. This very low prevalence for smokeless tobacco use is apparent in both the Lower Mainland region and the entire province.

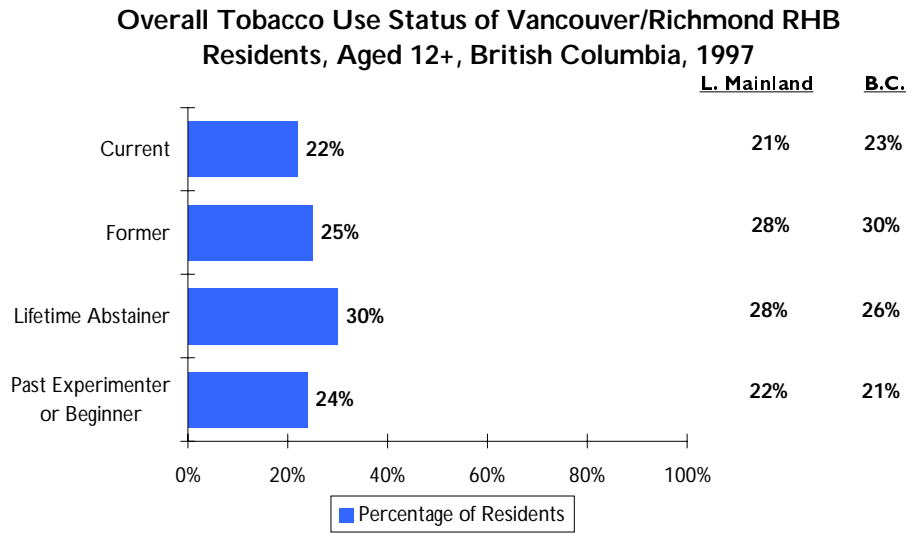
Former users of smokeless tobacco products represent only 1% of all Vancouver/Richmond residents, while residents who have never used smokeless tobacco represent fully 98% of the population aged 12+ years. As shown in the graph, this never user group includes lifetime abstainers (88%) and past experimenters or beginners (10%). These percentages are generally similar to the survey findings for the Lower Mainland region and the province as a whole, however, Vancouver/Richmond has slightly more lifetime abstainers than the province (88% vs. 85%).



### 8.3.3 Overall Tobacco Use Status

The current prevalence of any form of tobacco use among Vancouver/Richmond 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 Vancouver/Richmond.

Non-use is presently the norm among residents of the Vancouver/Richmond RHB, with 79% of the aged 12+ population indicating they do not currently use any form of tobacco. On the other hand, the survey does show that 22% of residents are currently using at least one form of tobacco. Former tobacco users represent 25% of the Vancouver/Richmond population, while never users include past experimenters or beginners at 24% and lifetime abstainers at 30%. As shown in the graph, these findings are similar to those found elsewhere in the Lower Mainland region, but are slightly different from the results for the entire province. For example, Vancouver/Richmond has fewer former users (25% vs. 30%), but slightly more lifetime abstainers (30% vs. 26%) and past experimenters or beginners (24% vs. 21%).



## 8.4 Social Demographics of Tobacco Use

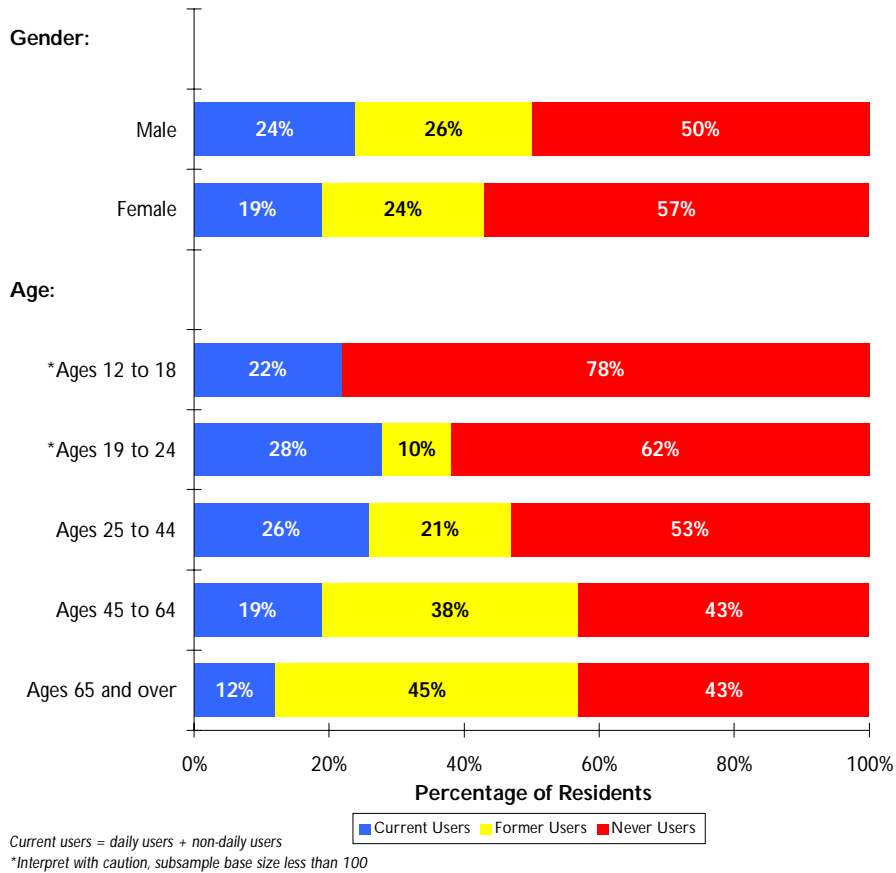
In this section, use of any form of tobacco (i.e., current, former vs. never) has been cross tabulated against a range of social demographic characteristics of residents, in order to demonstrate a number of social and economic variations in tobacco usage. As already outlined in *Overall Tobacco Use Status*, 22% of all Vancouver/Richmond residents are current tobacco users, 25% are former users, and 54% 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 current tobacco users (24% vs. 19%). On the other hand, female residents are more likely than male residents to have never been a tobacco user (57% vs. 50%).

In terms of age, current tobacco use is highest among 19 to 24 year olds (28%), and 25 to 44 year olds (26%), and is lowest among 45 to 64 year olds (19%) and those aged 65 and over (12%). Being a former user of tobacco rises steadily with age, from 0% among 12 to 18 year olds to 45% among residents aged 65 and over. On the other hand, the proportion of residents who have never used tobacco drops dramatically from 78% of 12 to 18 years olds to 62% of those aged 19 to 24 years and continues to decline across the 25 to 44, 45 to 64 and 65+ age groupings.

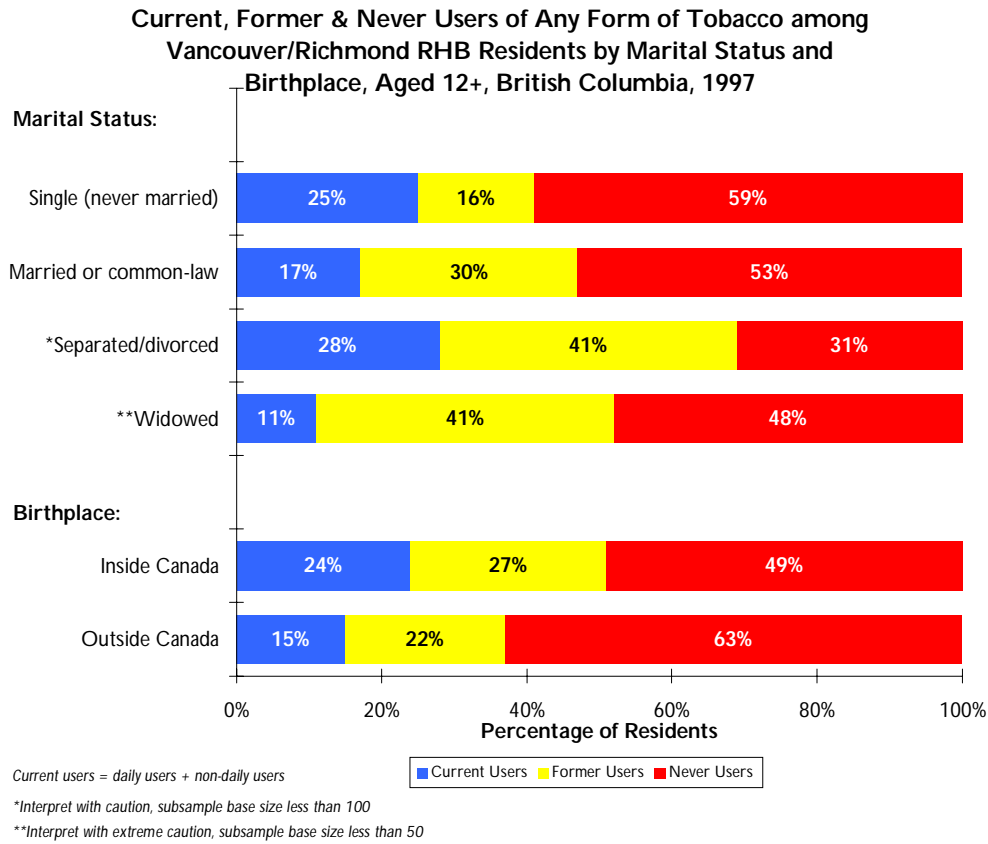
**Current, Former & Never Users of Any Form of Tobacco among Vancouver/Richmond RHB Residents by Gender and Age, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997**



### 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 Vancouver/Richmond are born inside or outside of Canada appears to be related to their lifetime experience with tobacco. Current use is higher among those born in Canada (24% vs. 15%), while never use is higher among those who were born outside of Canada (63% vs. 49%). Differences in rates of tobacco use are also clearly evident, as a function of marital status. For instance, the proportion of current users is highest among residents who are separated or divorced (28%), while the proportion of former users is highest among those who are

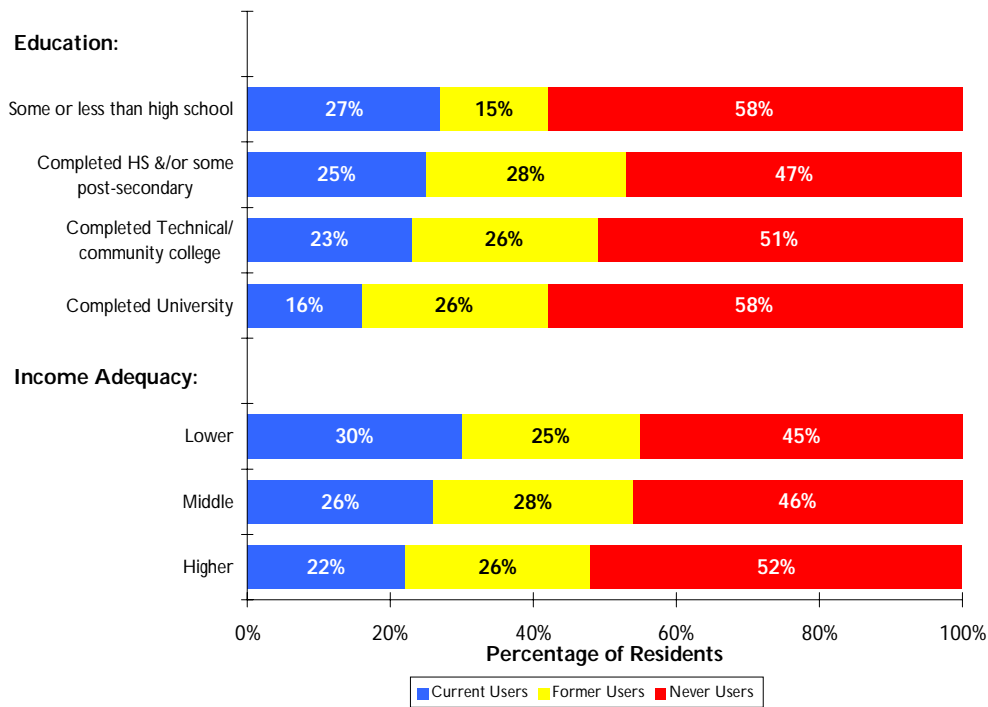
presently are either separated/divorced (41%) or widowed (41%). Finally, those residents who have never married (i.e., single) are most likely (59%) to have never been users of tobacco.



### 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 (30%) than those with higher income adequacy (22%). Similarly for education, the highest proportion of current users is found among residents with some high school or less (27%) while the lowest proportion of current users is found among residents who are university graduates (16%).

**Current, Former & Never Users of Any Form of Tobacco among Vancouver/Richmond RHB Residents by Education & Income Adequacy, British Columbia, 1997**



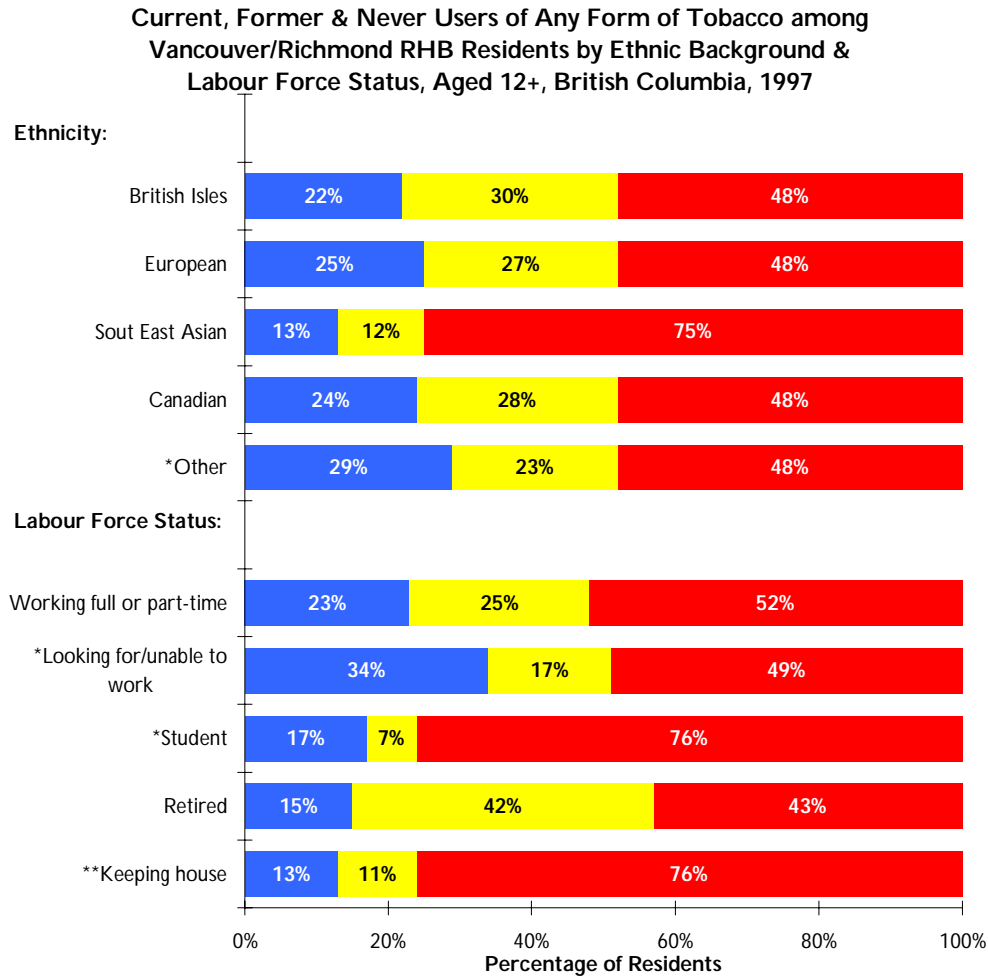
Current users = daily users + non-daily users

### 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. Some variations in tobacco use according to ethnic/cultural grouping are evident. South East Asian residents have the lowest proportion of current users (13%) and the highest proportion of never users (75%).

Variations in tobacco use according to labour force status are also apparent from the graph. For example, among Vancouver/Richmond residents who are either looking for work or who are unable to work the proportion of current users is 34%. By contrast, the proportion of current users among those working full or part-time is just 23%. Current use of any form of tobacco by students and retired residents is also quite low

(17% and 15% 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  
 \*\*Interpret with extreme caution, subsample base size less than 50

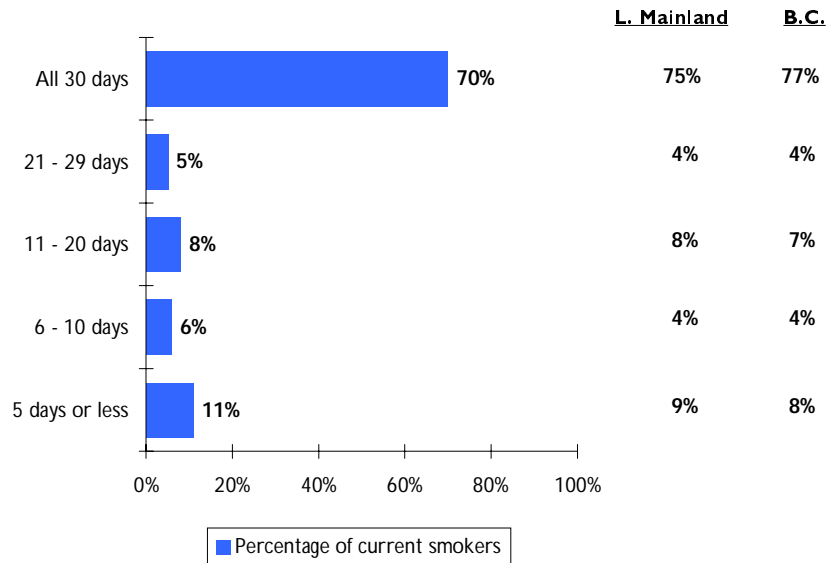
## **8.5 Frequency of Cigarette Smoking among Current Users**

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**

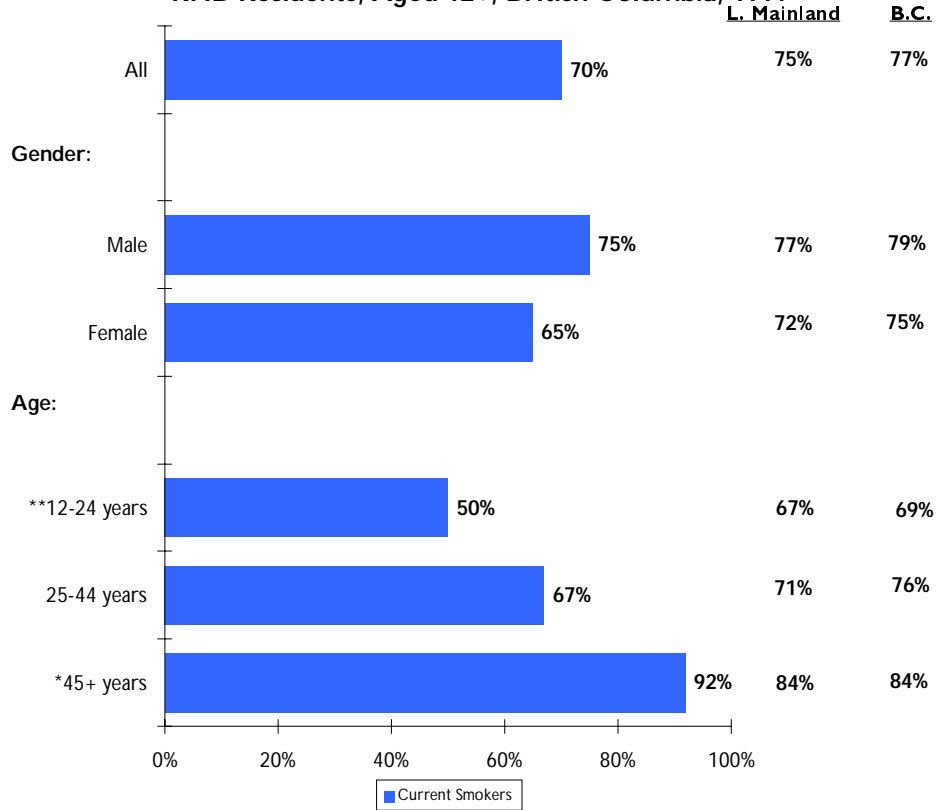
The number of days in the past month in which current cigarette smokers in Vancouver/Richmond had at least one cigarette is displayed in the graph following. Very infrequent smoking, such as on 5 or fewer days per month was reported by 10% of smokers, while smoking on all 30 days during the past month was reported by 70% of current cigarette smokers. This rate for every day smoking is slightly lower than that found across the province (77%) and in the Lower Mainland region (75%).

**Days Smoked in the Past Month among Current Cigarette Smokers, Vancouver/Richmond RHB Residents, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997**



As shown in the following graph, females are less likely than males to report smoking on all 30 days in the past month (i.e., are daily smokers) (65% vs. 75%). Determining the differences among age categories is difficult because of small sample sizes, but the trend appears to point to every day smoking increasing with age. These relationships between gender and age are generally consistent with those reported by cigarette smokers in the Lower Mainland region and in the province.

**Every Day Smoking in the Past Month among Current Cigarette Smokers by Gender & Age, Vancouver/Richmond RHB Residents, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997**

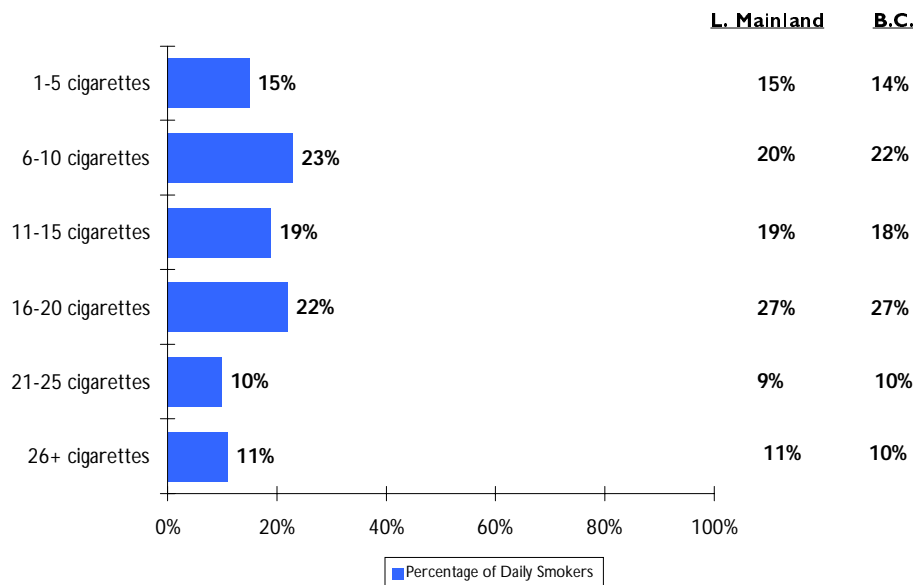


Current cigarette smokers = daily smokers + non-daily smokers  
 \*Interpret with caution, subsample base size less than 100  
 \*\*Interpret with extreme caution, subsample base size less than 50

### 8.5.2 Cigarettes per Day by Daily Smokers

Among daily cigarette smokers in Vancouver/Richmond only 15% report averaging 5 or fewer cigarettes per day, but as can be seen in the graph below, a full 21% report averaging more than 20 cigarettes per day. The average number of cigarettes smoked per day by daily cigarette smokers in Vancouver/Richmond is 16.5. This average number is consistent with the averages for daily cigarette smokers in the Lower Mainland region (16.7 per day), and the entire province (16.6 per day).

**Average Number of Cigarettes per Day among Daily Cigarette Smokers, Vancouver/Richmond RHB Residents, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997**



Averages: RHB=16.5; Region = 16.7; BC = 16.6

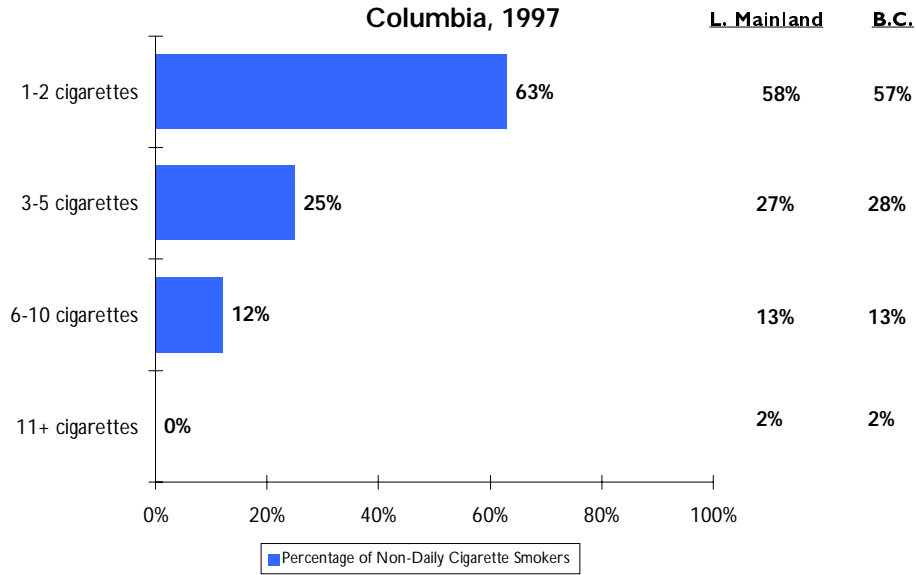
As shown in the table, on average males smoke more per day than females (18.3 vs. 14.3). The base sizes for age groupings make accurate reporting difficult, but cigarettes per day appears to increase with the age of the smoker. The gender and age differences are also apparent for the Lower Mainland region and for the province as a whole.

Average Number of Cigarettes per Day Among Daily Cigarette Smokers by Gender & Age, Vancouver/Richmond RHB Residents Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997			
	Vancouver/ Richmond RHB	Lower Mainland Region	B.C.
All	16.5	16.7	16.6
<b>Gender:</b>			
Male	18.3	18.1	18.2
Female	14.3	15.0	15.0
<b>Age:</b>			
**12-24 years	11.7	12.6	12.2
25-44 years	15.4	16.1	16.8
**45-64 years	19.3	18.8	18.7
<i>**Interpret with extreme caution, subsample base size less than 50</i>			

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

The number of cigarettes smoked per day by non-daily cigarette smokers in Vancouver/Richmond (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 with daily smokers, fully 63% of these smokers report having only 1 to 2 per day, 25% report having 3 to 5 per day, and just 12% report having 6 or more cigarettes per day on the days that they smoke. The average number of cigarettes per day for this non-daily group is 2.8. These percentages are consistent with those of other non-daily cigarette smokers in the Lower Mainland region and the province (see graph).

**Average Number of Cigarettes per Day on Smoking Days  
among Non-Daily Cigarette Smokers‡,  
Vancouver/Richmond RHB Residents, Aged 12+, British  
Columbia, 1997**



**Averages: RHB=2.8; Region=3.3; BC=3.5**

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

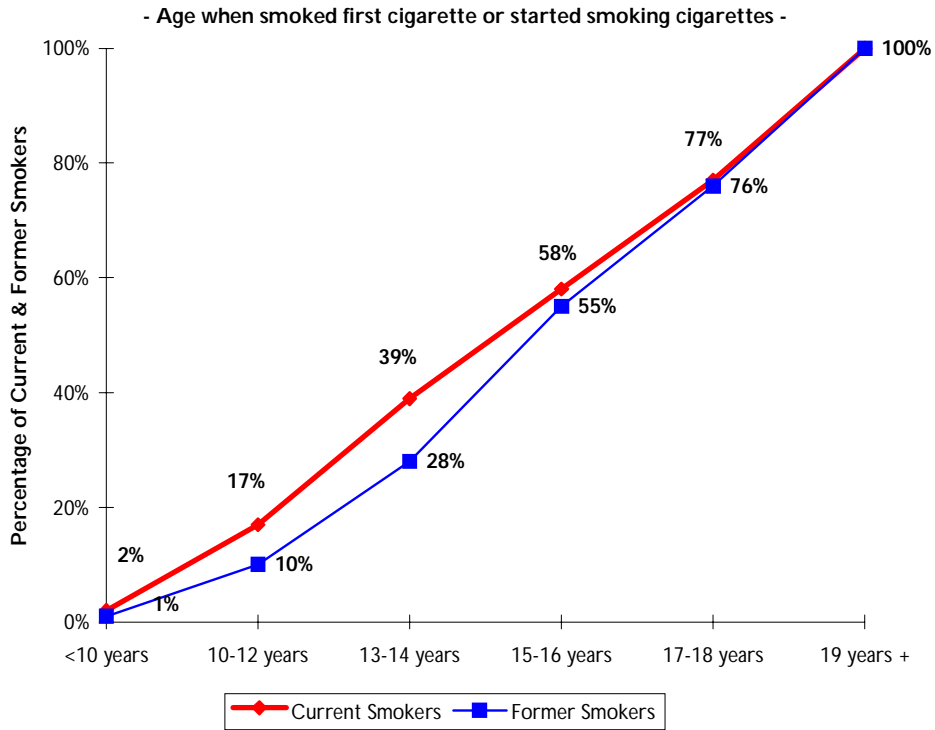
## 8.6 Age of Initiation for Tobacco Use

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 age of initiation for cigarette smoking among residents of Vancouver/Richmond is displayed in the graph for current cigarette smokers and former cigarette smokers. Among **current** cigarette smokers, 17% began smoking before the age of 13, 39% began smoking before age 15 and 77% began smoking before age 19. The average age of initiation for those Vancouver/Richmond residents who currently smoke cigarettes is 16.4 years. This pattern of responses is similar among **former** cigarette smokers, with 10% indicating they began smoking before the age of 13, 28% began before age 15 and 76% began before age 19. The average age of initiation among former cigarette smokers is 17.1 years.

**Cumulative Distribution for Age of Initiation among Current & Former Cigarette Smokers, Vancouver/Richmond RHB Residents, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997**



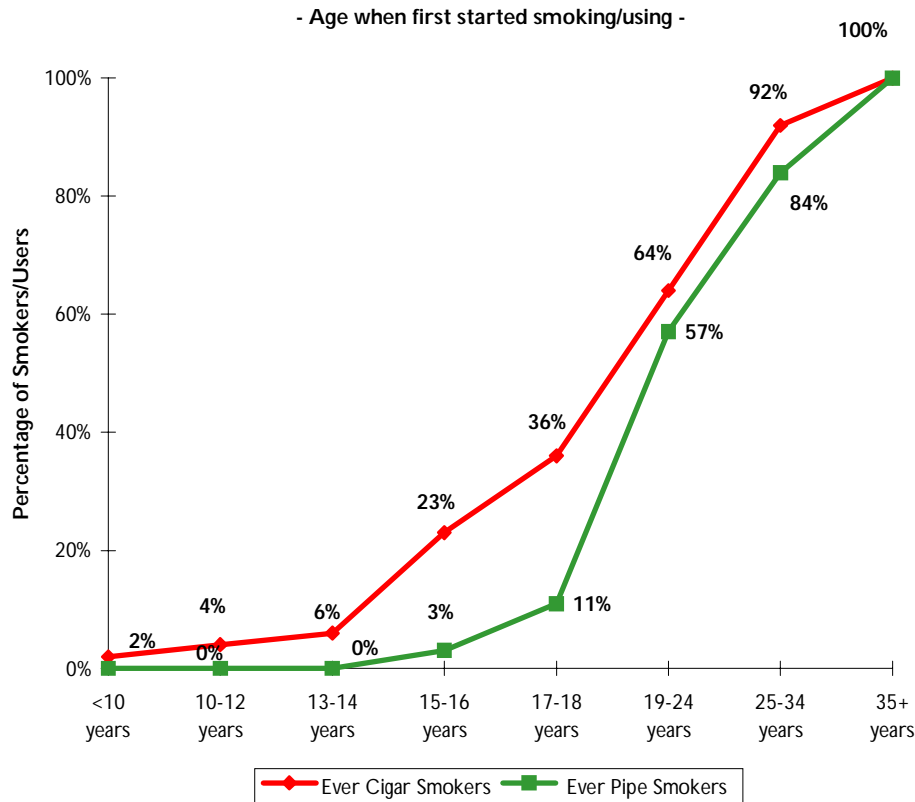
As shown in the table below, these average ages for the onset of cigarette smoking are slightly higher than those observed in the Lower Mainland region and in the entire province.

Average Age of Initiation among Current & Former Smokers, Residents of Vancouver/Richmond RHB, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997			
	Vancouver/ Richmond RHB	Lower Mainland Region	B.C.
	Years	Years	Years
Current	16.4	15.8	15.7
Former	17.1	16.5	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 Vancouver/Richmond who have ever used (current + former) cigars and pipes are displayed in the graph below. The sample size for those who have ever used smokeless tobacco is too small for reliable estimation and is not presented.

**Cumulative Frequency Distribution for Age of Initiation among Ever Cigar Smokers† & Ever Pipe Smokers†, Vancouver/Richmond RHB Residents, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997**



Ever = Current & Former

†Interpret with extreme caution, total base size less than 50

Among those Vancouver/Richmond residents who have ever smoked cigars, just 4% began smoking cigars before age 13, 36% began before age 19, 64% began before age 25, and 92% began before age 35. Compared to cigarette smoking, the average age of onset

for cigar smoking is somewhat older at 22.1 years and this is just slightly lower than the averages found for cigar smoking in the Lower Mainland region (23.1 years) and the province (22.8 years).

For Vancouver/Richmond residents who have ever smoked pipe tobacco, just 3% began smoking a pipe before age 17, 11% began before age 19, 57% began before age 25, and 84% began before age 35. The average age of onset for pipe smoking is even older than that for cigars at 25.0 years. This is very close to the average ages found in the Lower Mainland region (24.2 years) and the province (24.6 years).

The average age of initiation for smokeless tobacco amongst the very few residents of Vancouver/Richmond who have ever used smokeless tobacco is quite similar to the Lower Mainland region and the province.

Average Age of Initiation among Ever Cigar Smokers‡, Ever Pipe Smokers‡ & Ever Smokeless Users‡, Residents of Vancouver/Richmond RHB, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997			
	<b>Vancouver/Richmond RHB</b>	<b>Lower Mainland Region</b>	<b>B.C.</b>
	<b>Years</b>	<b>Years</b>	<b>Years</b>
Ever Cigar Smoker	22.1	23.1	22.8
Ever Pipe Smoker	25.0	24.2	24.6
Ever Smokeless User	22.2	23.2	21.8

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

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

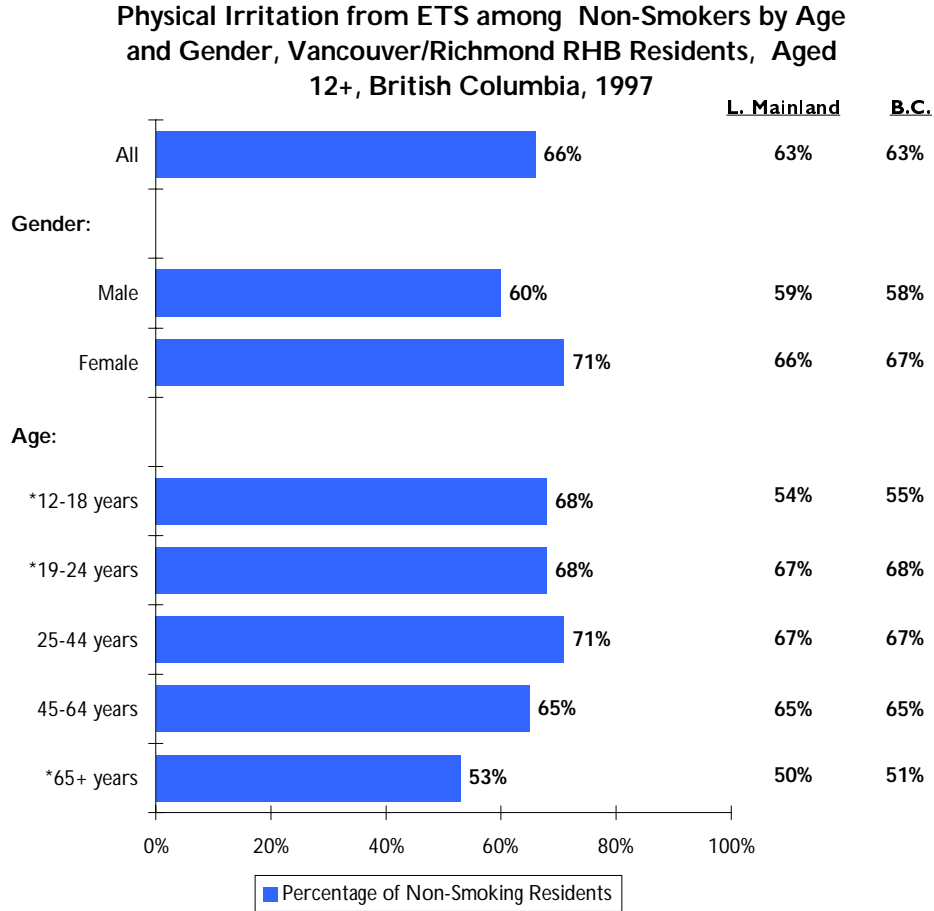
In addition to inquiring directly about tobacco use, the survey also asked residents of Vancouver/Richmond about their exposure to environmental tobacco smoke (ETS), sometimes known as secondhand smoke, in their own homes, at work and school and in other public places. Being exposed to ETS was defined 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. Two-thirds (66%) of non-smokers (i.e., those Vancouver/Richmond residents who do not currently smoke cigarettes, cigars or a pipe) report they are usually physically irritated by ETS. Interestingly, even 39% of current smokers report physical irritation.

Some gender differences in the proportion of non-smokers are evident with 60% of males versus 71% of females indicating they are usually irritated by ETS. Age related differences are also evident with 68% of non-smokers under the age of 25 being irritated by ETS, yet this proportion declines with age to just 53% 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 Lower Mainland region and the province.

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.



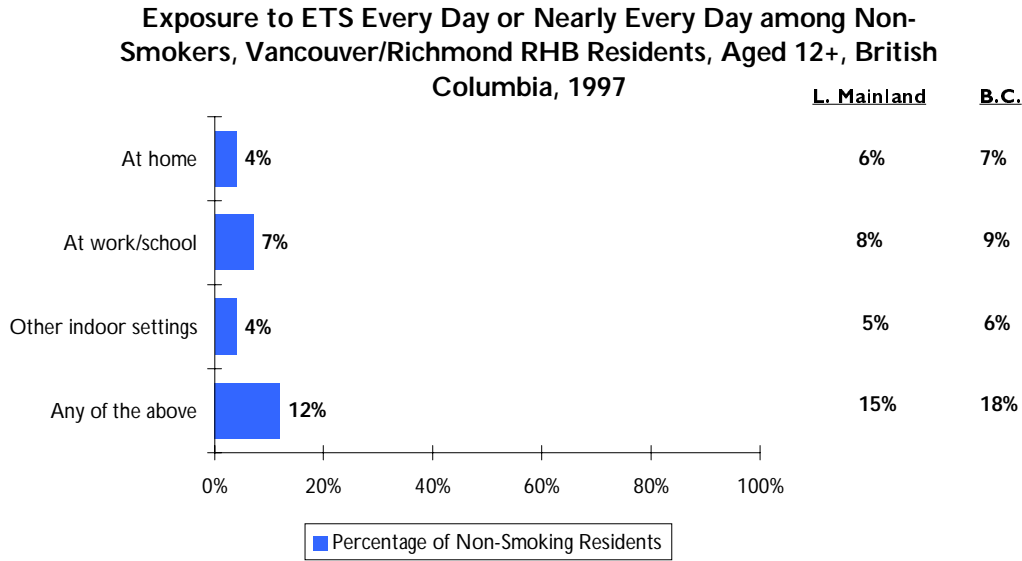
*Non-smoking residents = those who do not currently smoke cigarettes, cigars or pipes.*

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

### 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 Vancouver/Richmond. 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 12% 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 similar to that observed for the Lower Mainland region (15%) but is clearly lower than for the province as a whole (18%). This 12% of non-smoking Vancouver/Richmond residents,

who are exposed to ETS everyday or almost everyday translates into 10% of all Vancouver/Richmond residents.

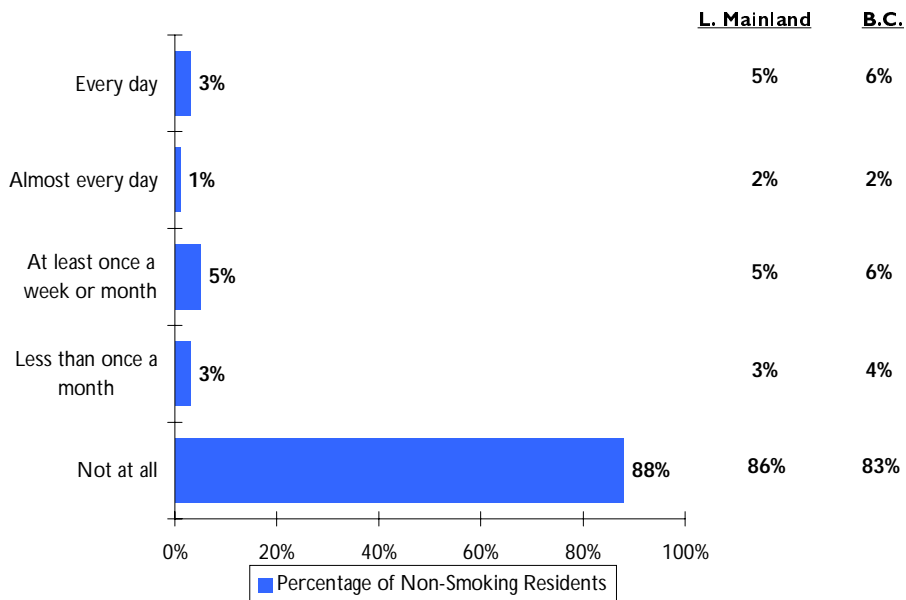


*Non-smoking residents = those who do not currently smoke cigarettes, cigars or pipes.*

### 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, 4% of non-smokers in Vancouver/Richmond report being exposed to ETS inside their home on a daily or nearly daily basis. On the other hand, 88% report no exposure to ETS at all in their homes. The proportion of non-smokers in Vancouver/Richmond who have an ETS free home is similar to the Lower Mainland region but slightly higher than the whole province (88% vs. 83%).

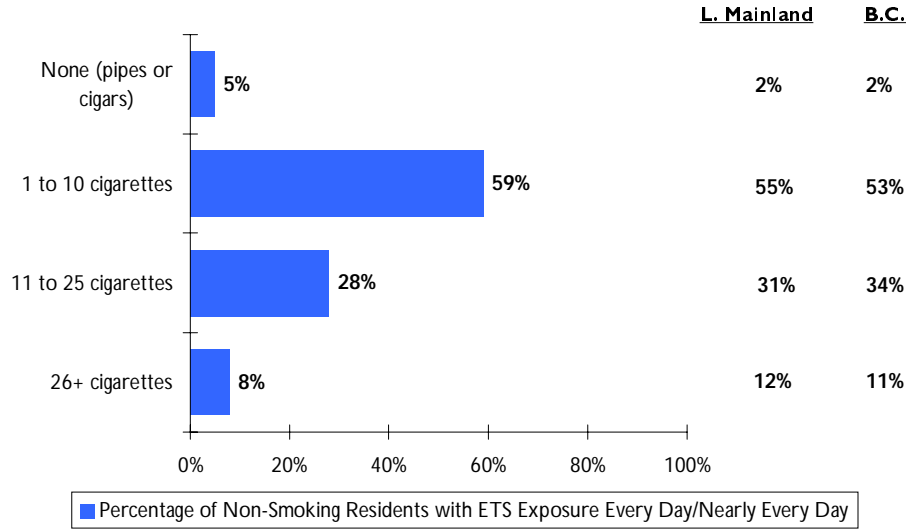
**Frequency of Exposure to ETS at Home among Non-Smokers, Vancouver/Richmond RHB Residents, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997**



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

Vancouver/Richmond residents who are exposed to ETS inside their homes every day or nearly every day, were also asked how many cigarettes are smoked inside their home on a typical day. Fifty-nine percent of these residents indicated they are exposed to smoke from 1 to 10 cigarettes per day and 28% 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 12.9, and as shown in the graph to follow, this average is slightly lower than for other non-smokers in the Lower Mainland region (14.2) and the province (14.3). Although this difference could be attributed to a very small base size for Vancouver/Richmond.

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

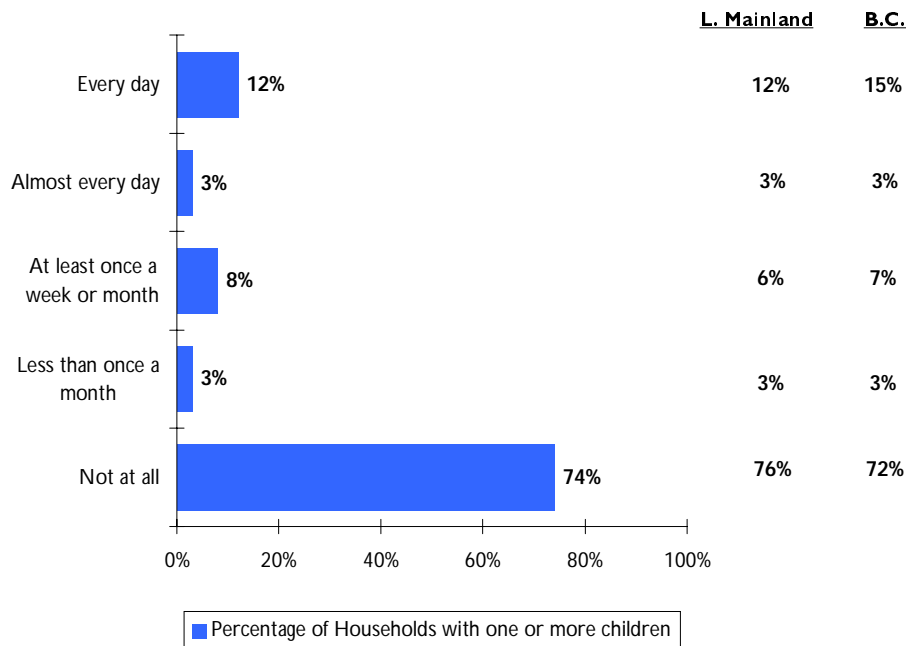


Average: Vancouver/Richmond RHB = 12.9; Region = 14.2; B.C. = 14.3

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

Households with Children: ETS exposure in Vancouver/Richmond households with children age 11 and under are highlighted in the graph below. In 15% of these households there is daily or nearly daily exposure to ETS, and in 74% there is no ETS exposure at all. These percentages are quite similar to those found for households with children in the Lower Mainland region (15% - daily/nearly daily, 76% - not at all) and in the whole province (18% - daily/nearly daily, 72% - not at all).

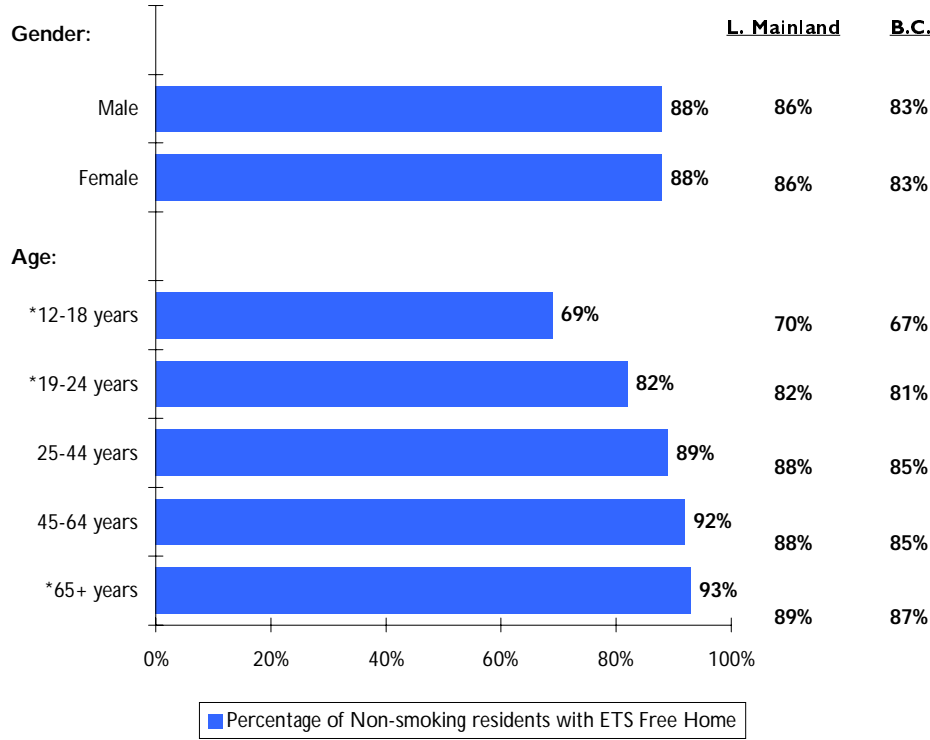
**Frequency of Exposure to ETS in Homes with Children Aged 11 Years and Under, Vancouver/Richmond RHB Residents, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997**



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 14.0. This average is marginally less than that found for such households in the Lower Mainland region (17.9) and the province (18.2), although this difference could also be attributed to a very small base size.

ETS Free Households Non-smoking residents of Vancouver/Richmond who live in households with no ETS exposure at all are equally likely to be male or female (88%), but as shown in the graph, this probability tends to vary depending on the age of the resident. For instance, just 69% of 12 to 18 year old non-smoking residents live in households with no ETS exposure at all, but this percentage rises to 93% among non-smokers age 65 years and over.

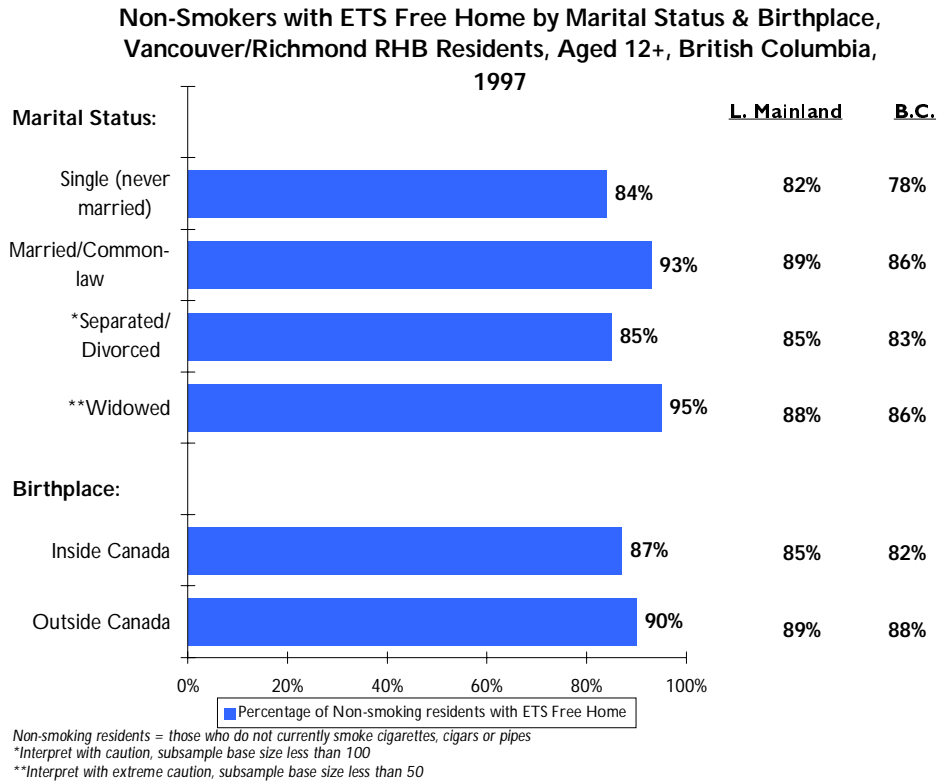
**Non-Smokers with ETS Free Households by Gender & Age,  
Vancouver/Richmond RHB Residents, Aged 12+, British  
Columbia, 1997**



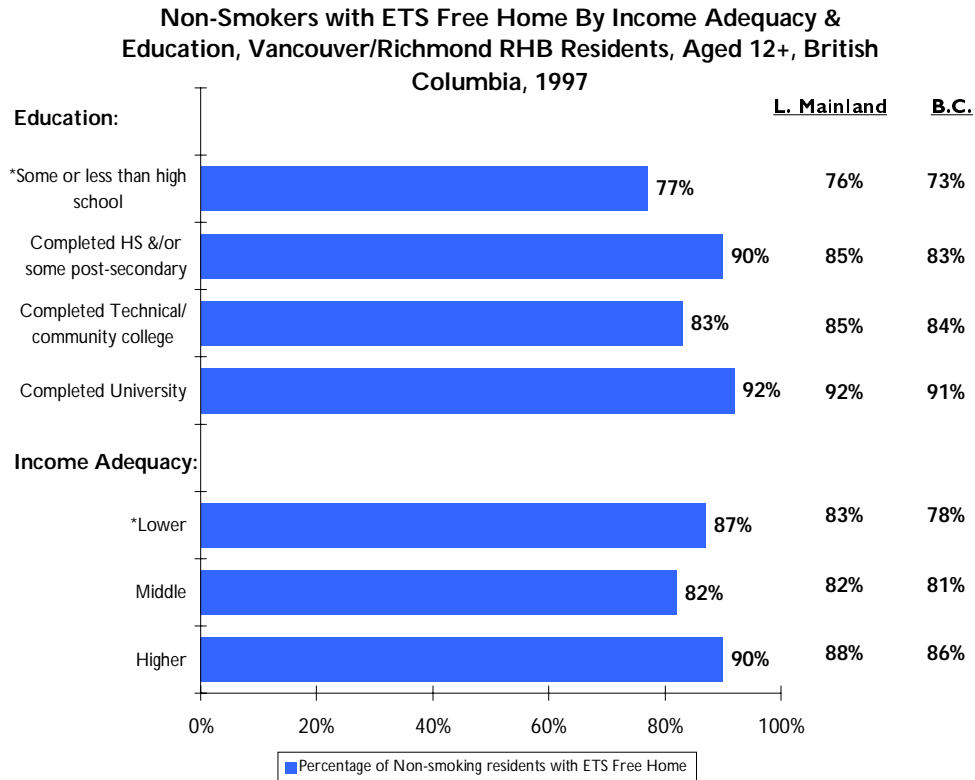
*Non-smoking residents = those who do not currently smoke cigarettes, cigars or pipes.*

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

Non-smokers living in a household with no ETS exposure at all are about equally likely to have been born inside of Canada as outside of Canada (87% vs. 90%). However, as shown in the following graph, the probability of non-smoking residents living in an ETS free home does vary somewhat with marital status. Those who are married (93%) or widowed (95%) are slightly more likely to have no exposure to ETS at home than those who are either single (84%) or separated/divorced (85%).



There is no clear association between ETS free homes of non-smokers in Vancouver/Richmond by income adequacy, as the highest and lowest income adequacy groups have similar ETS free percentages and the middle having the lowest ETS free percentage. A clearer relationship is evident with education, in that those with the lowest education level of some high school or less are 77% ETS free compared to 92% of those who are university graduates.

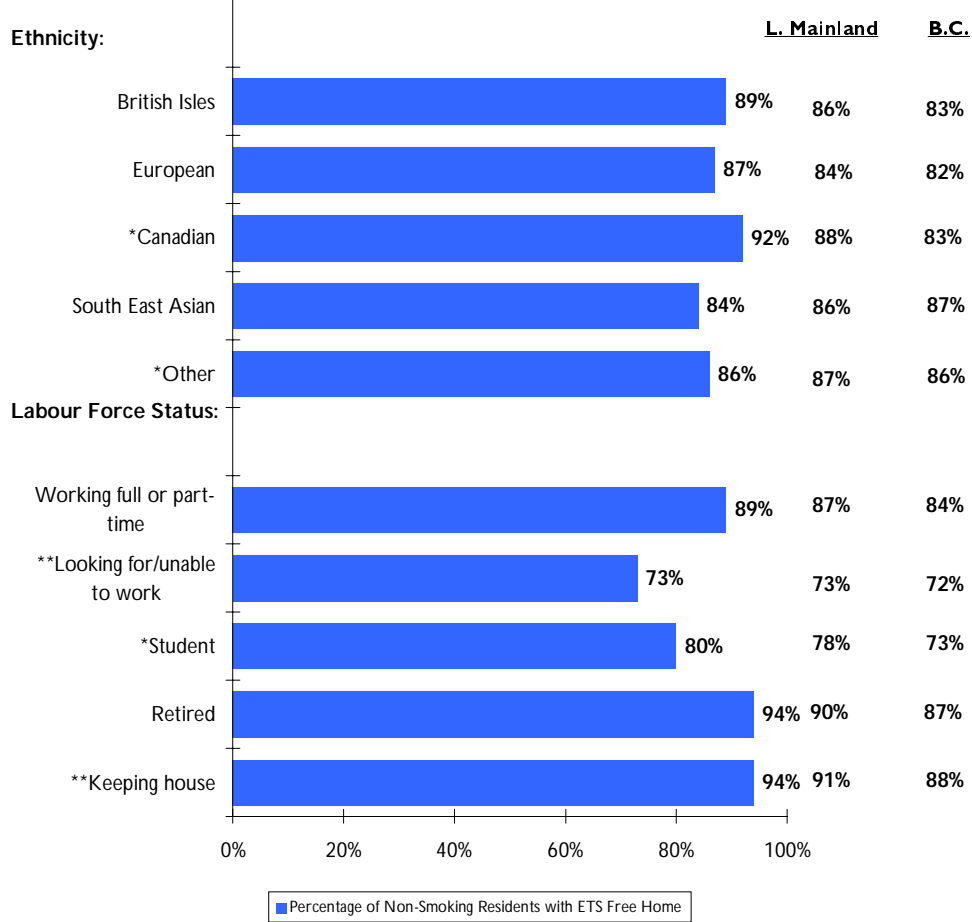


*Non-smoking residents = those who do not currently smoke cigarettes, cigars or pipes*

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

The graph to follow displays the same relationship for the ethnicity and labour force status of Vancouver/Richmond residents who do not smoke. For the most part, ethnic group membership appears to be unrelated to whether or not Vancouver/Richmond 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 (80% and 73% respectively). Conversely, residents who are presently employed, retired, or keeping house are more likely to live in an ETS free household (89%, 94%, and 94% respectively).

**Non-Smokers with ETS Free Home by Ethnicity & Labour Force Status, Vancouver/Richmond RHB Residents, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997**



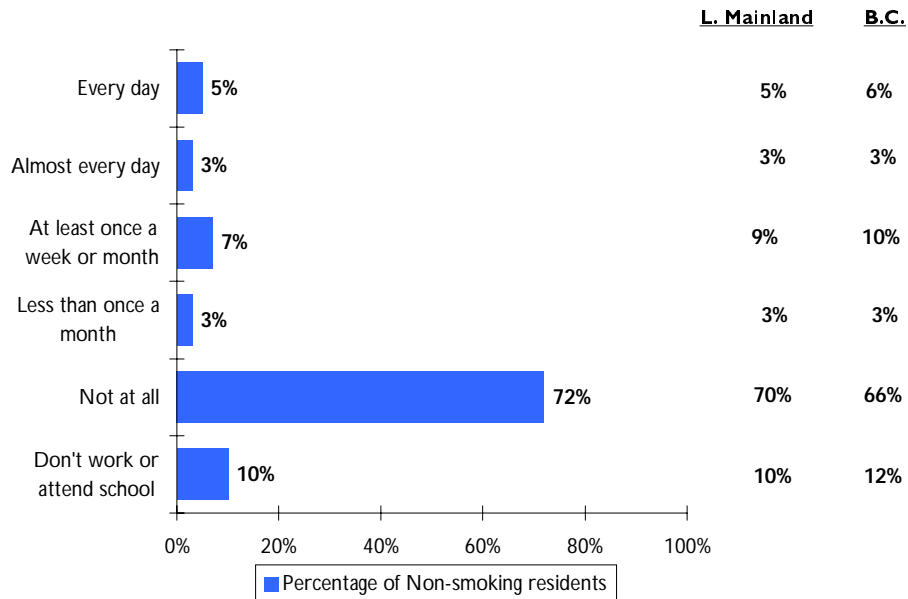
*Non-smoking residents = those who do not currently smoke cigarettes, cigars or pipes*  
*\*Interpret with caution, subsample base size less than 100*  
*\*\*Interpret with extreme caution, subsample base size less than 50*

### 8.7.4 Exposure to ETS at Work or School

Non-smokers in Vancouver/Richmond 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, just 8% of non-smokers report exposure to ETS every day or nearly every day when at work or school, while 72% said they are not exposed to ETS at all. This latter percentage for Vancouver/Richmond is similar to the survey findings for the entire Lower Mainland region (70%) but is higher than that of the province (66%).

**Frequency of Exposure to ETS at Work or School among Non-Smokers, Vancouver/Richmond RHB Residents, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997**



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

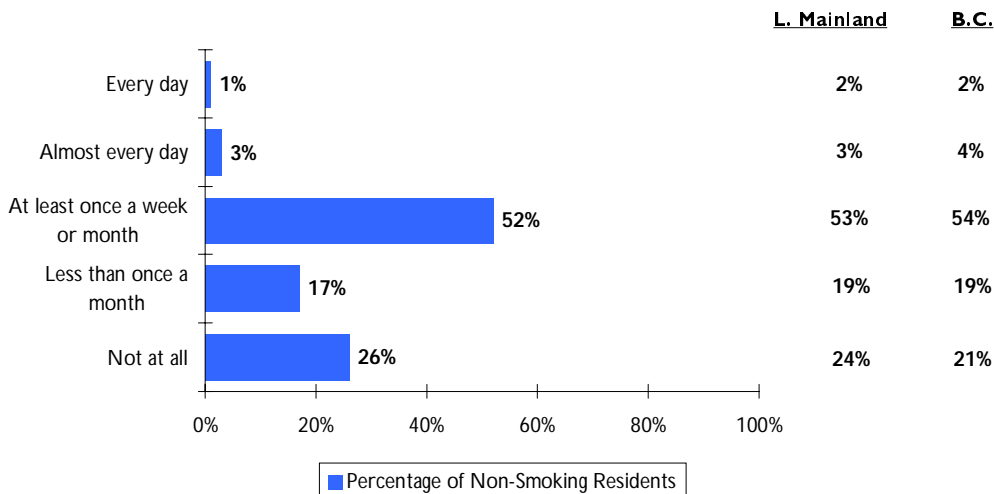
University graduates are somewhat more likely to report not being exposed to any ETS while at work or attending school (81%). Married residents are also likely to be ETS free at work or at school (77%). By comparison, other demographic descriptors appear to be unrelated to whether or not the non-smoking residents of Vancouver/Richmond 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 Vancouver/Richmond 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 74% of non-smoking residents in Vancouver/Richmond. Daily or nearly daily exposure in such settings was acknowledged by 4% of non-smoking residents which is very similar to the Lower Mainland region generally (5%) and for the province (6%). However, no ETS exposure at all in other indoor settings is slightly higher in Vancouver/Richmond (26%) than for the province (21%).

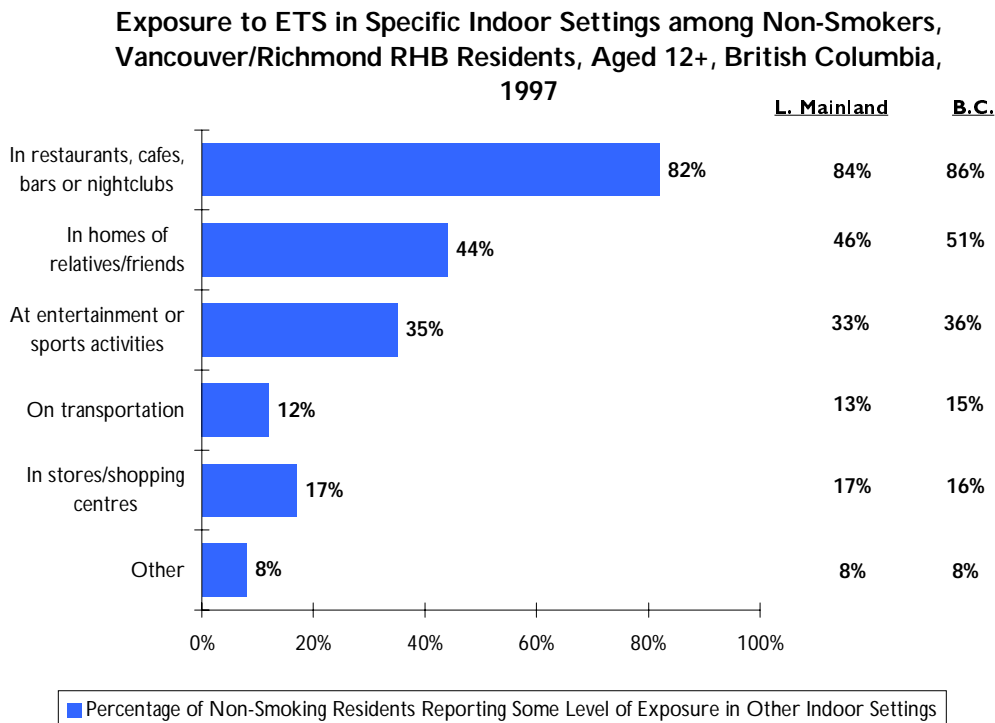
**Frequency of Exposure to ETS in other Indoor Settings among Non-Smokers, Vancouver/Richmond RHB Residents, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997**



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

The 74% of non-smoking residents of Vancouver/Richmond who indicated some level of exposure to ETS in the other indoor settings, were also asked specifically about being exposed 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 (44%) and restaurants, cafes, bars or nightclubs (82%), than they do for transportation (12%) and stores or shopping centres (17%). Moreover, this general pattern of findings is also evident in the survey data for the entire Lower Mainland region and for the province.



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

## 8.8 Demographics of Survey Sample

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+).

	Vancouver/ Richmond RHB Sample	Lower Mainland Region Sample	British Columbia Sample
	%	%	%
<b>Gender</b>			
Male	49	49	49
Female	51	51	51
<b>Age</b>			
12-19	10	12	13
20-24	10	10	9
25-44	39	35	34
45-64	26	28	28
65+	15	16	17
Average	41.7	42.3	42.8
<b>Marital Status</b>			
Single	48	38	35
Married/Common Law	37	46	49
Separated/Divorced	9	9	8
Widowed	6	7	7
<b>Children</b>			
None	84	77	76
One	9	12	12
Two or more	6	11	12
<b>Education</b>			
Less than High School	3	4	6
Some High School	11	14	16
Completed High School	17	22	23
Some or Completed Technical/Community College	20	21	21
Some University	9	10	10
Completed University	23	18	15
Graduate Degree	15	10	8
<b>Income Adequacy</b>			
Low	5	5	5
Lower-Middle	9	9	10
Middle	22	23	26
Upper-Middle	39	39	38
High	24	24	21

	Vancouver /Richmond RHB Sample	Lower Mainland Region Sample	British Columbia Sample
	%	%	%
<b>Labour Force Status</b>			
Working full-time	47	44	41
Working part-time	7	8	9
Self-Employed	8	9	9
Looking for work or unable to work	7	6	6
Student	11	11	10
Retired	17	18	20
Keeping house	3	4	4
<b>Place of Birth</b>			
In Canada	69	74	79
Outside Canada	31	26	21
<b>Ethnicity</b>			
British	40	43	47
European	31	37	38
South Asian	3	3	2
South East Asian	18	10	6
Canadian	11	12	13
Aboriginal	2	2	3

Demographically, the Vancouver/Richmond RHB differs from British Columbia on the following:

*Marital Status* - Vancouver/Richmond has more single residents (48% vs. 35%) and fewer married residents (37% vs. 49%);

*Place of Birth* - Vancouver/Richmond has fewer residents born inside Canada (69% vs. 79%) and more born outside Canada (31% vs. 21%);

*Children* - Vancouver/Richmond has more homes with no children (84% vs. 76%) and less with two or more children (6% vs. 12%);

*Education* - Vancouver/Richmond has fewer residents who completed only high school (17% vs. 23%) and more who have a university degree (38% vs. 23%); and,

*Ethnicity* - Vancouver/Richmond has more South East Asians (18% vs. 6%) and fewer Europeans (31% vs. 38%) and those from the British Isles (40% vs. 47%).