

8. Thompson RHB Report

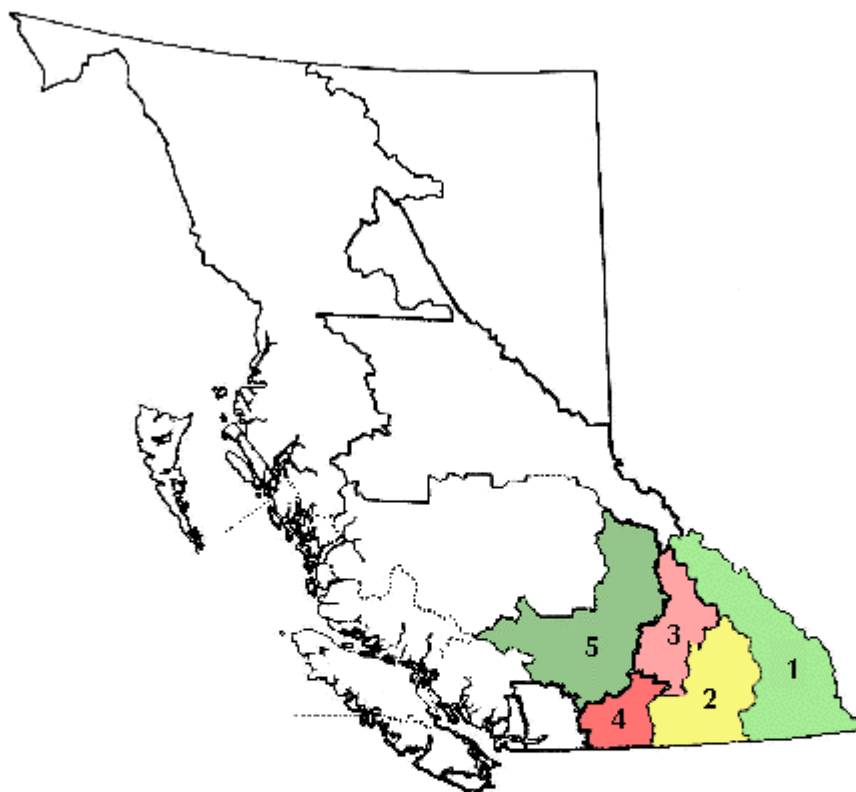
8.1 Introduction

The results presented in this report are based on approximately 1,000 interviews with B.C. residents living within the Thompson 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 Thompson have been compared with results for the province overall and a macro region called the Southern Interior which includes East Kootenay, North Okanagan, Okanagan Similkameen, Thompson and Central Kootenay.

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Southern and Central Vancouver Island
Vancouver and Lower Mainland

- 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 Thompson area make up 27% of residents while former smokers represent 29% and never smokers 45%. The vast majority of current smokers (81%) are daily smokers. The use of other forms of tobacco such as cigars, pipes and smokeless tobacco is very low at 1% to 2%. In looking at overall tobacco use, 29% of Thompson residents are current users, 28% are former users, 24% are lifetime abstainers and 20% are past experimenters or beginners. The average age of initiation for current and former cigarette smokers is similar (15.8 and 15.7). The average age of initiation is higher for ever users (current and former) of other forms of tobacco – cigars (23.2), pipes (24.4) and smokeless tobacco (21.8).

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

ETS - Almost two-thirds of non-smokers and 41% smokers report physical irritation to their eyes, breathing or throat due to ETS. Amongst non-smokers, 11% report every day or almost every day ETS exposure at home, 14% at work or school and 10% in other indoor settings. This results in 26% of Thompson non-smoking residents who are exposed to ETS every day or almost every day or the equivalent of 19% of all Thompson residents. In total, nearly half (48%) of Thompson residents' health is being adversely affected by tobacco (29% through current tobacco use and 19% through ETS).

8.3 Tobacco Use Status of Thompson Residents

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

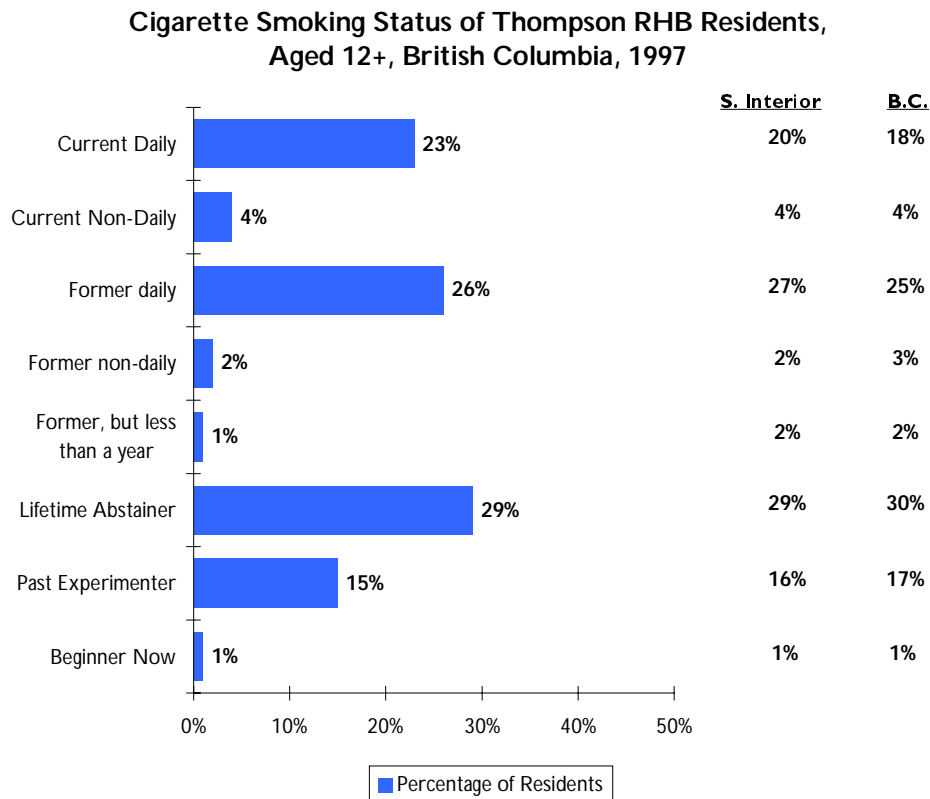
The current prevalence of cigarette smoking among all residents of Thompson (aged 12+), is 27%. Daily users predominate among current cigarette smokers at 23%, while non-daily smokers represent 4% of all residents. As shown in the graph, this prevalence rate is slightly higher to that found in the Southern Interior region (24%) and the entire province (22%).

Former cigarette smokers comprise 29% of all Thompson residents. This percentage includes former daily smokers (26%), former non-daily smokers (2%), and former smokers, who quit less than a year ago (1%). These percentages are quite similar to those found for the Southern Interior region and the entire province.

By contrast, Thompson RHB residents who have never smoked cigarettes represent 45% of the population aged 12+ years. These never users include lifetime abstainers (29%), past experimenters (15%), 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 27% of residents in Thompson, while former smokers represent 29% and never smokers 45%. Overall, these proportions are quite similar to those found for the Southern Interior region and the province.



8.3.2 Alternate Tobacco Use Status

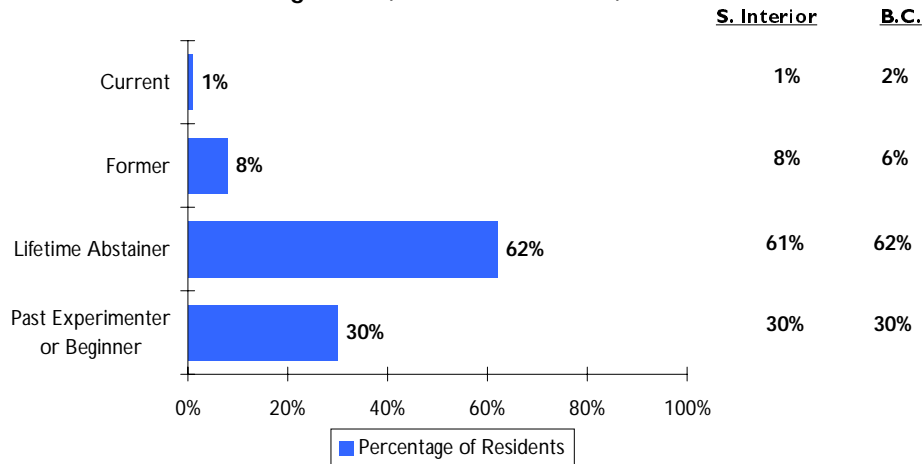
Cigar/Cigarillo Smoking Status

For cigar smoking among residents of Thompson, 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 Thompson 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 Southern Interior region and provincially, at 1% and 2% respectively.

The graph also shows that former cigar smokers in Thompson represent 8% of residents, while those who have never smoked cigars make up 92% of the residential population. This never user group includes lifetime abstainers (62%) and past experimenters or beginners (30%). These percentages are also in line with those found for the Southern Interior region and for the whole province.

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



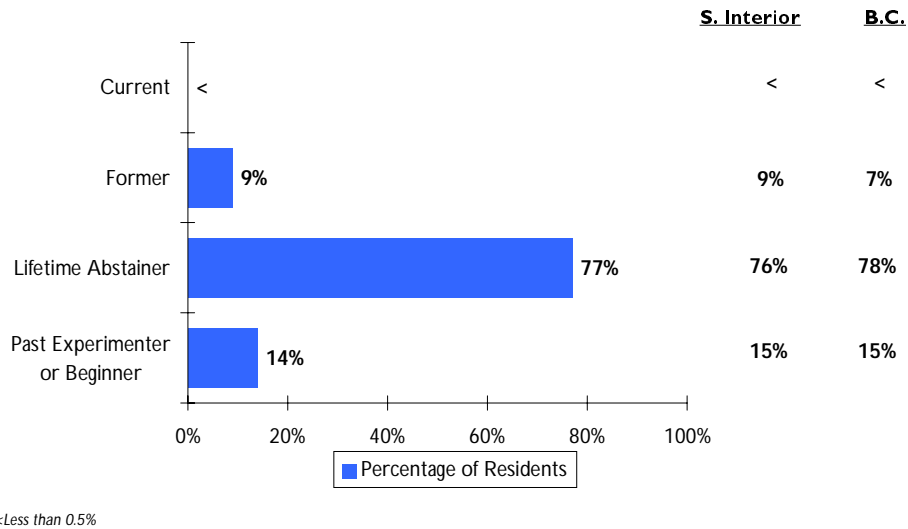
Pipe Smoking Status

For the smoking of pipe tobacco among Thompson 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 Thompson residents is less than 0.5%. Like cigar smoking, there are insufficient numbers of pipe smokers in Thompson 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 Thompson represent 9% of all residents, while those who have never smoked pipe tobacco make up fully 91% of the residential population. This never user group includes lifetime abstainers (77%) and a smaller group of past experimenters or beginners (14%). These percentages are also in keeping with those found for the Southern Interior region and for the whole province.

**Pipe Smoking Status of Thompson RHB Residents, Aged 12+,
British Columbia, 1997**



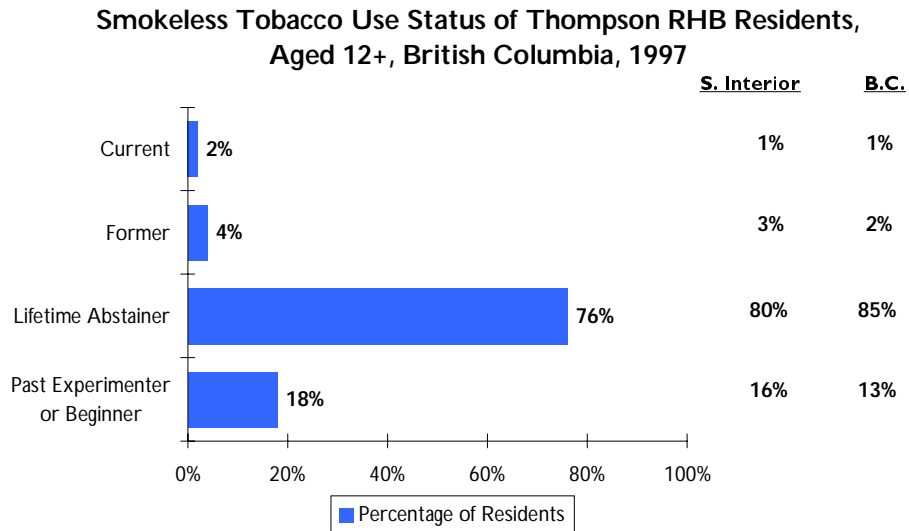
Smokeless Tobacco Use Status

Smokeless tobacco use (i.e., snuff, pinch and chewing tobacco) among Thompson 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 Thompson is just 2%. There are also insufficient numbers of smokeless users to distinguish between daily and non-daily use. As shown in the graph, 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 Thompson 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 (76%) and past experimenters or beginners (18%). This percentage

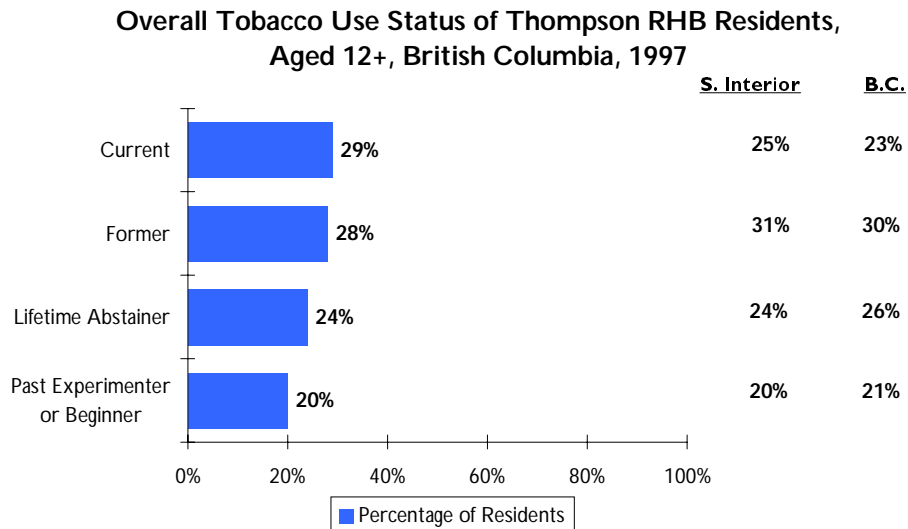
for past experimenters/beginners in Thompson is slightly higher than the survey findings for the province as a whole (13%), but is more similar to the findings for the Southern Interior region (16%).



8.3.3 Overall Tobacco Use Status

The current prevalence of any form of tobacco use among Thompson 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 Thompson.

Non-use is presently the norm among residents of Thompson, with 71% of the aged 12+ population indicating they do not currently use any form of tobacco. On the other hand, the survey does show that 29% of residents are currently using at least one form of tobacco. Former tobacco users represent 28% of the Thompson population, while never users include past experimenters or beginners at 20% 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 29% is slightly higher than the regional rate of 25% and the provincial rate of 23%.



8.4 Social Demographics of Tobacco Use

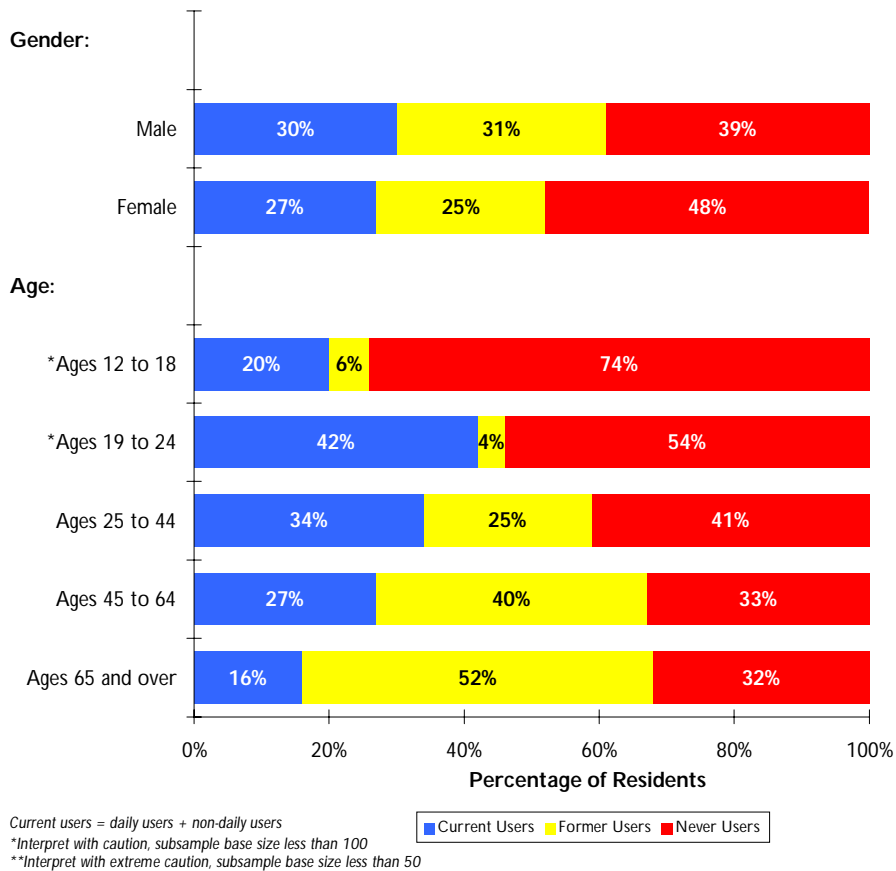
In this section, use of any form of tobacco (i.e., current, former vs. never) has been cross tabulated against a range of social demographic characteristics of residents, in order to demonstrate a number of social and economic variations in tobacco usage. As already outlined in *Overall Tobacco Use Status*, 29% of all Thompson residents are current tobacco users, 28% are former users, and 44% 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 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 (48% vs. 39%).

In terms of age, current tobacco use is highest among 19 to 24 year olds (42%) and 25 to 44 year olds (34%), and lowest among 12 to 18 year olds (20%) and those aged 65 and over (16%). For the most part, being a former user of tobacco rises steadily with age, from about 5% among residents under the age of 25 to 52% among residents aged 65 and over. On the other hand, the proportion of residents who have never used tobacco drops dramatically from 74% of 12 to 18 years olds to 54% of those aged 19 to 24 years and continues to decline until it reaches a low of 32% for those aged 65 and over.

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

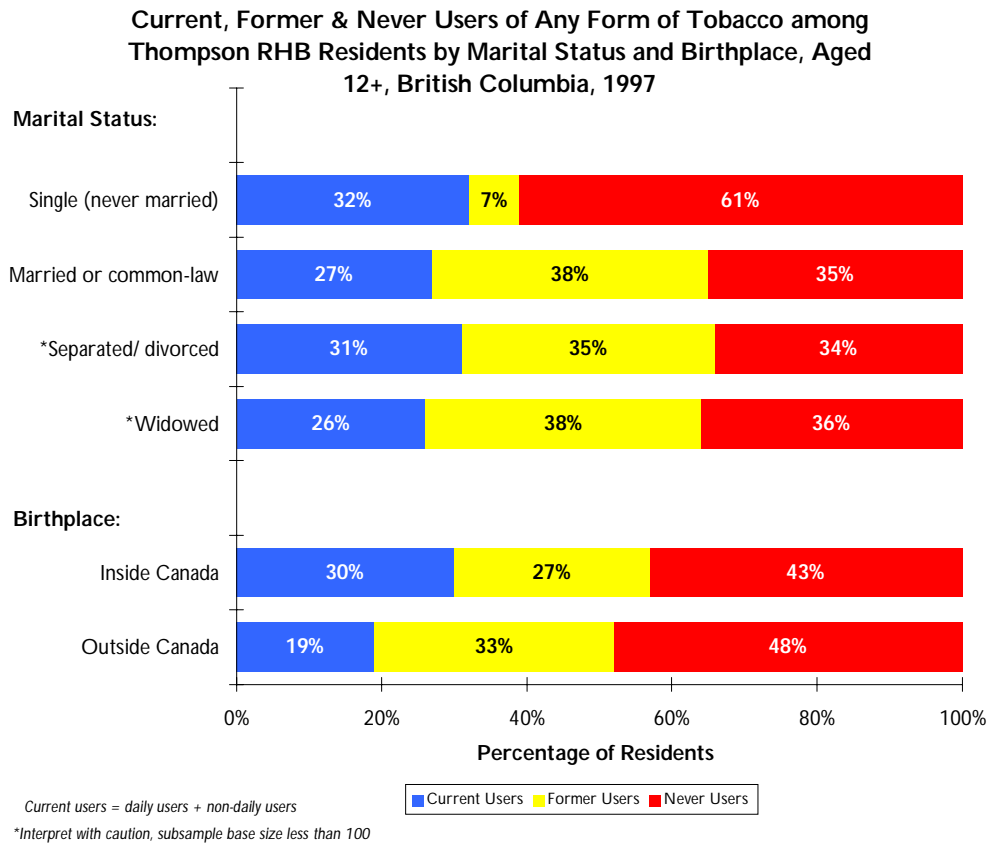


8.4.2 Birthplace and Marital Status

The graph below displays the relationship between tobacco use and place of birth, as well as marital status. Whether residents of Thompson are born inside or outside of Canada appears to be somewhat related to their lifetime experience with tobacco. For example, Thompson residents born in Canada are more likely to be current users than those born outside of Canada (30% vs. 19%).

Additionally, differences in rates of tobacco use are evident, in the graph, as a function of marital status. For instance, the proportion of former users is lowest among those who

have never been married (7%). Furthermore, those residents who have never married (i.e., single) are most likely (61%) to have never used tobacco.

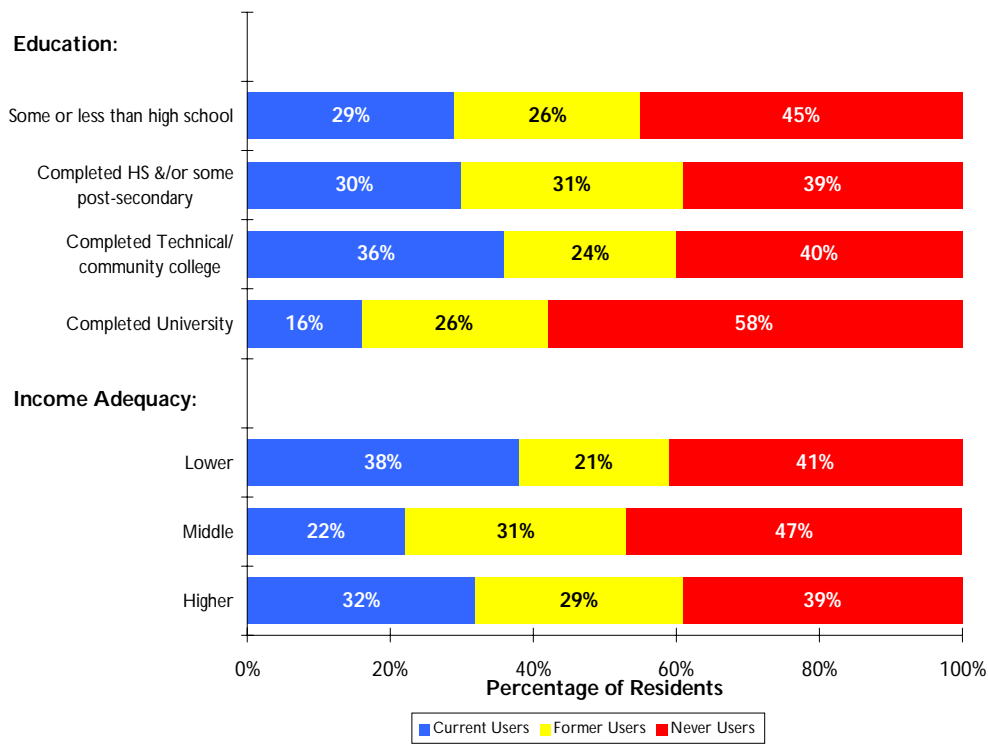


8.4.3 Income Adequacy and Education

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 (38%), and conversely the lowest proportion of current users is found for residents who are university graduates (16%).

Furthermore, the proportion of residents who have never used any form of tobacco is considerably higher among university graduates (58%), than among technical/ community college graduates (40%) and high school graduates (39%).

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



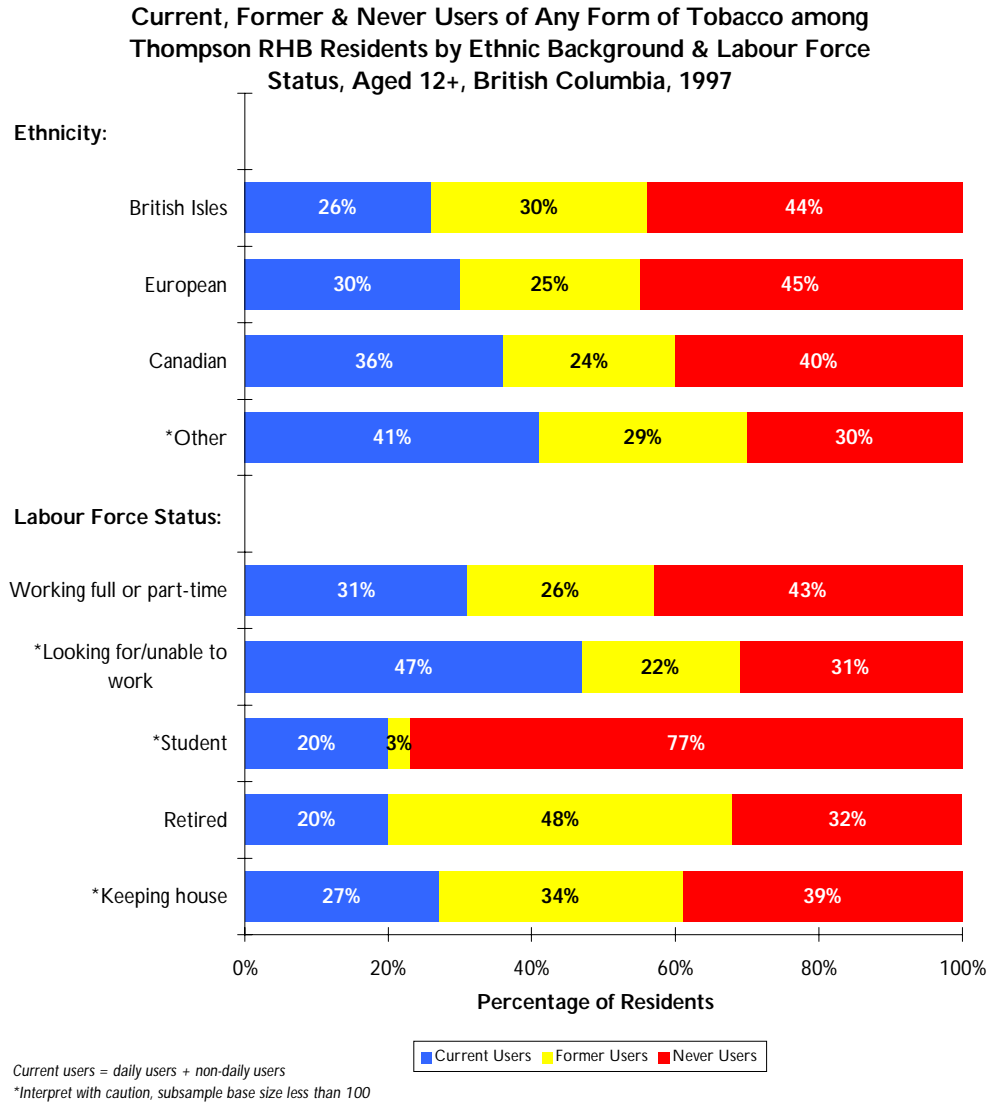
Current users = daily users + non-daily users

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, with current use being lowest among British residents (26%). 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 Thompson residents who are either looking for work or who are unable to work the proportion of current users is 47%. By contrast, the

proportion of current users among those working full or part-time is just 31%. Current use of any form of tobacco by students and retired residents is quite low (20% each), but these proportions are largely attributable to the age of these residents, rather than their labour force status.



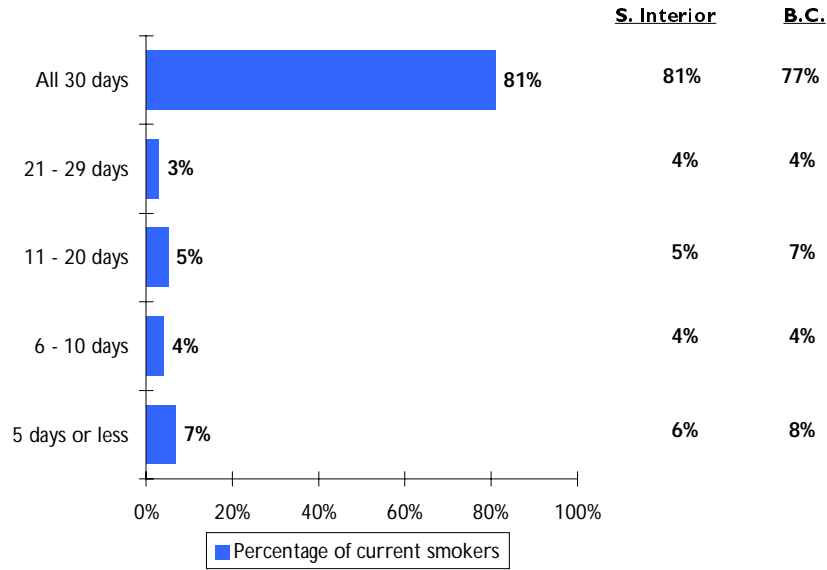
8.5 Frequency of Cigarette Smoking among Current Users

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 Thompson 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 7% of smokers, while smoking on all 30 days during the past month was reported by fully 81% of current cigarette smokers. This rate for every day smoking is slightly higher than that found across the province (77%), but the same as in the Southern Interior region (81%).

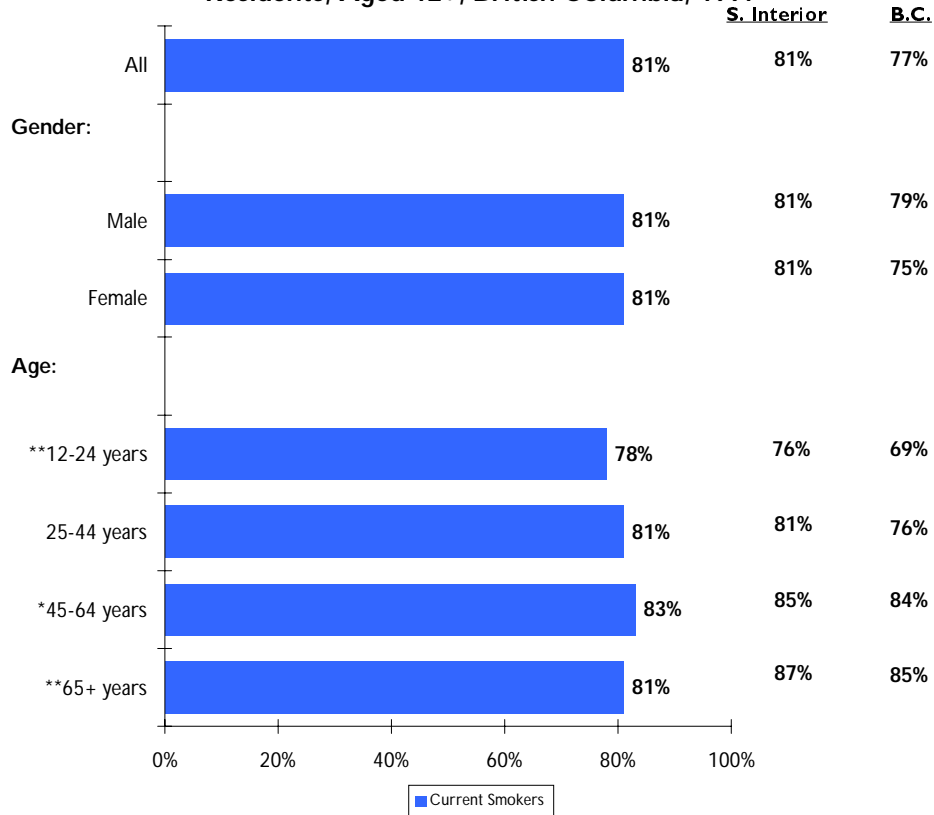
Days Smoked in the Past month among Current Cigarette Smokers, Thompson RHB Residents, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997



Current smokers = daily smokers + non-daily smokers

As shown in the following graph, males and females are equally likely (81% each) to report smoking on all 30 days in the past month (i.e., are daily smokers). Smoking on all 30 days during the past month is also fairly consistent across the different age categories (ranging from 78% to just 83%). These percentages are not consistent with those reported by cigarette smokers in the Southern Interior region and in the province generally. Among cigarette smokers elsewhere in the province, everyday smoking rises with the age of the smoker.

Every Day Smoking in the Past month among Current Cigarette Smokers by Gender & Age, Thompson RHB Residents, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997

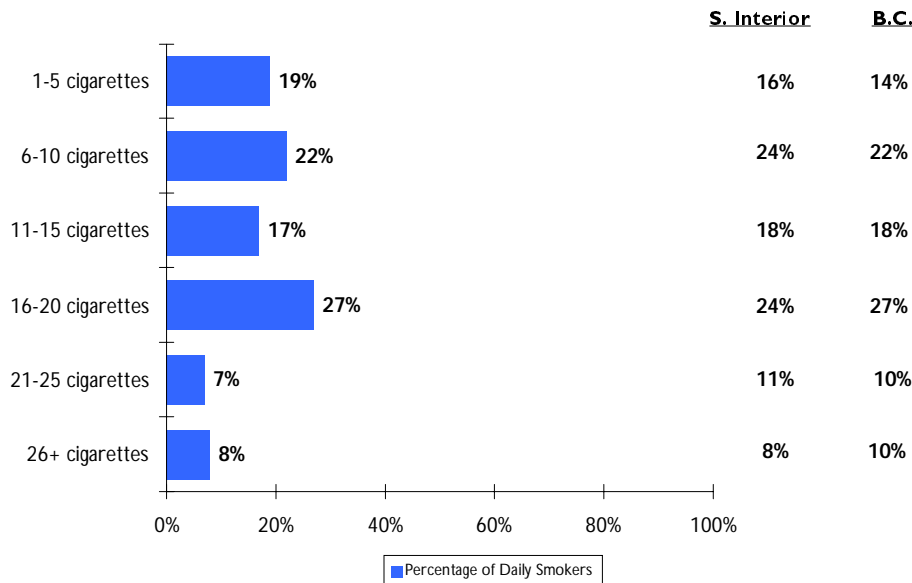


Current smokers = daily smokers + non-daily smokers
 *Interpret with caution, subsample base size less than 100
 **Interpret with extreme caution, subsample base size less than 50

8.5.2 Cigarettes per Day by Daily Smokers

Among daily cigarette smokers in Thompson, 19% report averaging 5 or fewer cigarettes per day, but as can be seen in the graph below, 15% report averaging more than 20 cigarettes per day. The average number cigarettes smoked per day by daily cigarette smokers in Thompson is 15.6. 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, Thompson RHB Residents, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997



Averages: RHB=15.6; Region = 15.9; B.C. = 16.6

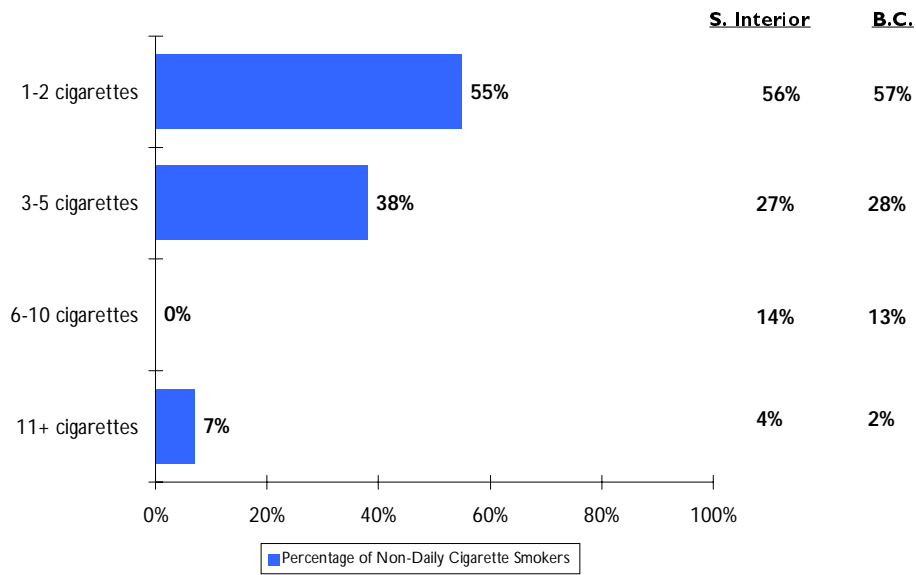
As shown in the table following, on average males smoke more per day than females (17.1 vs. 14.1). Additionally, the average number of cigarettes per day is highest in the 25 to 44 year age grouping (18.0), and lowest in the under 25 age group (around 10). Both gender and age differences are also apparent 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, Thompson RHB Residents, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997			
	Thompson RHB	S. Interior	B.C.
All	15.6	15.9	16.6
Gender:			
Male	17.1	17.3	18.2
Female	14.1	14.5	15.0
Age:			
**12-24 years	10.2	11.5	12.2
*25-44 years	18.0	17.2	16.8
*45-64 years	17.8	18.3	19.2
**65+ years	16.2	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 Thompson (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 55% of these smokers report having only 1 to 2 per day, 38% report having 3 to 5 per day, and just 7% 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 3.7. These percentages are generally consistent with those of other non-daily cigarette smokers in the Southern Interior region and the province (see graph), with the exception of the 38% who say they smoke 3 to 5 and the 0% who report smoking 6 to 10 cigarettes per day on smoking days. However, given the small sample numbers here, this kind of difference could easily be accounted for by sampling variability.

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



Averages: RHB=3.7; 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

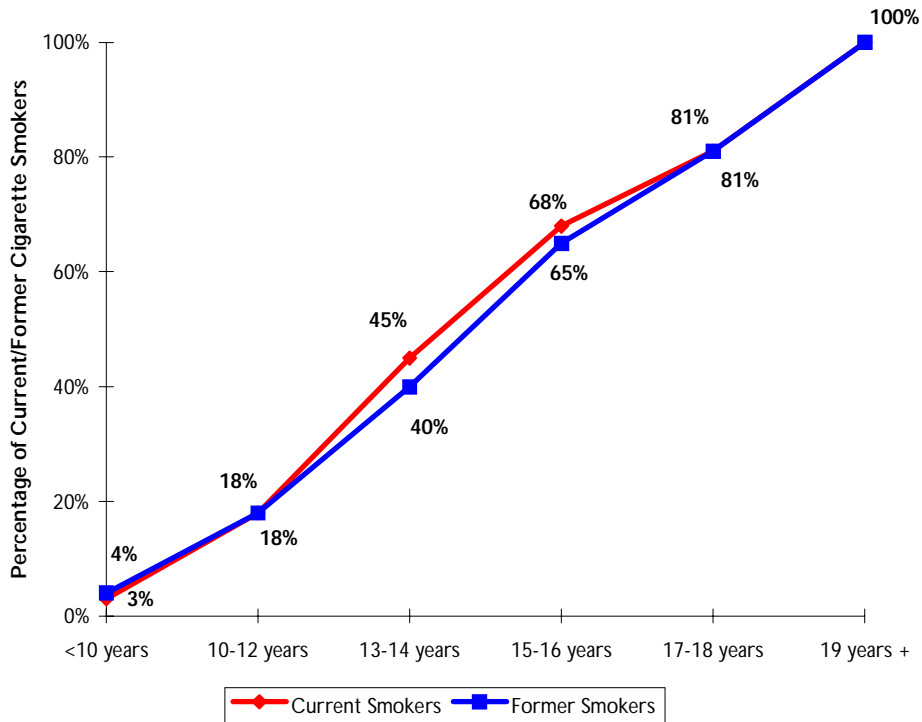
Both former and current users of tobacco identified by the survey were asked their age when they first started using various tobacco products. In the case of cigarettes, they were asked either their age when they smoked their first whole cigarette (if aged 12 to 19 years), or alternatively, their age 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 Thompson RHB is displayed in the graph for both current and former cigarette smokers. The pattern of responses for former and current smokers is quite similar. To elaborate, among **current** cigarette smokers, 18% began smoking before the age of 13, 45% began smoking before age 15 and 81% began smoking before age 19. The average age of initiation for those Thompson residents who currently smoke cigarettes is 15.8 years. This pattern of responses is very similar among **former** cigarette smokers, with 18% indicating they began smoking before the age of 13, 40% began before age 15 and 81% began before age 19. The average age of initiation among former cigarette smokers is 15.7 years.

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

- Age when smoked first cigarette or started smoking cigarettes -

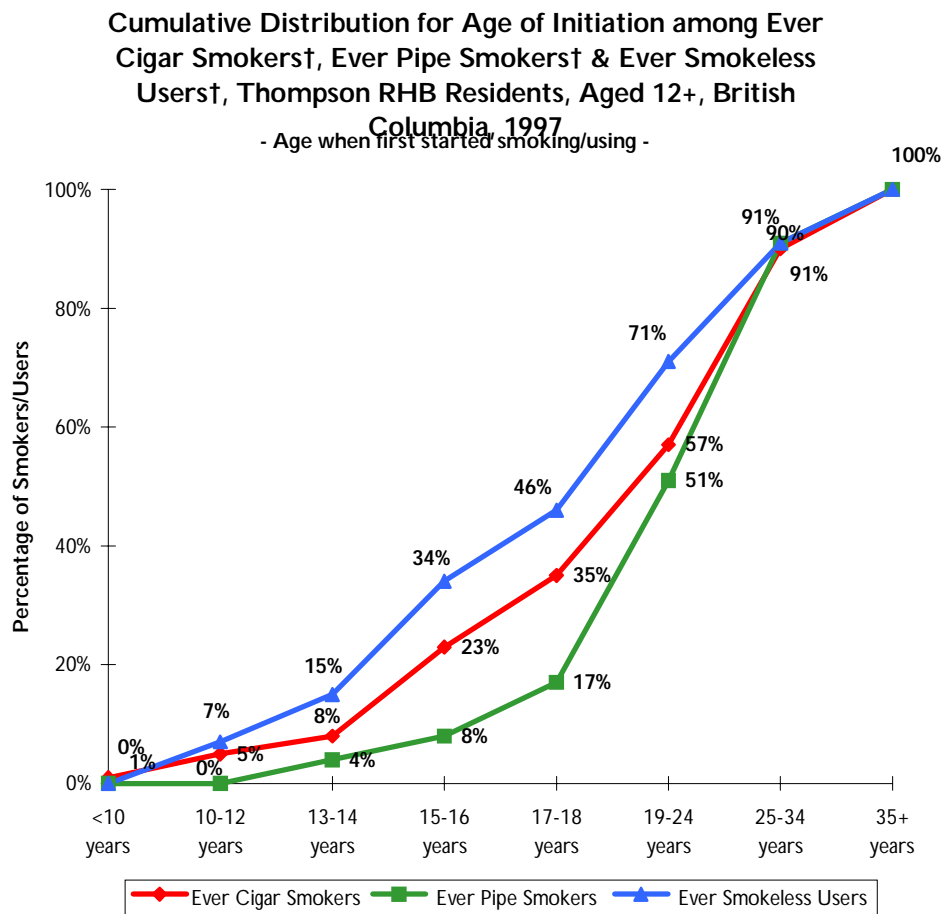


As shown in the table below, these average ages for the onset of cigarette smoking are similar to those observed in the Southern Interior region and in the entire province, although the pattern of age of initiation being younger for current smokers is reversed.

Average Age of Initiation among Current & Former Cigarette Smokers, Thompson RHB Residents, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997			
	Thompson RHB	S. Interior	B.C.
	Years	Years	Years
Current	15.8	15.6	15.7
Former	15.7	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 Thompson who have ever used (current + former) cigars, pipes and smokeless tobacco are displayed the graph below.



†Ever = Current & Former
 †Interpret with caution, total base size less than 100

Among those Thompson residents who have ever smoked cigars, just 5% began smoking cigars before age 13, 35% began before age 19, 57% began before age 25, and 90% began before age 35. Compared to cigarette smoking, the average age of onset for cigar

smoking is somewhat older at 23.2 years and is consistent with the averages found for cigar smoking in the Southern Interior region (22.6 years) and the province (22.8 years).

For Thompson residents who have ever smoked pipe tobacco, no residents began smoking a pipe before age 13, 17% began before age 19, 51% began before age 25, and 91% began before age 35. The average age of onset for pipe smoking is even older than that for cigars at 24.4 years. Yet, this average is very close to the average ages found for pipe smokers in the Southern Interior region (25.1 years) and the province (24.6 years).

Among those residents of Thompson who have ever used smokeless tobacco, just 7% began before age 13, 46% began before age 19, 71% began before age 25, and 91% began before age 35. The average age of onset for smokeless tobacco use is lower than that of pipes and cigars, at 21.8 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 Smokerst, Ever Pipe Smokerst & Ever Smokeless Userst, Thompson RHB Residents, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997			
	Thompson RHB	S. Interior	B.C.
	Years	Years	Years
Ever Cigar Smoker	23.2	22.6	22.8
Ever Pipe Smoker	24.4	25.1	24.6
Ever Smokeless User	21.8	21.7	21.8

tInterpret with caution, total base size less than 100.

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

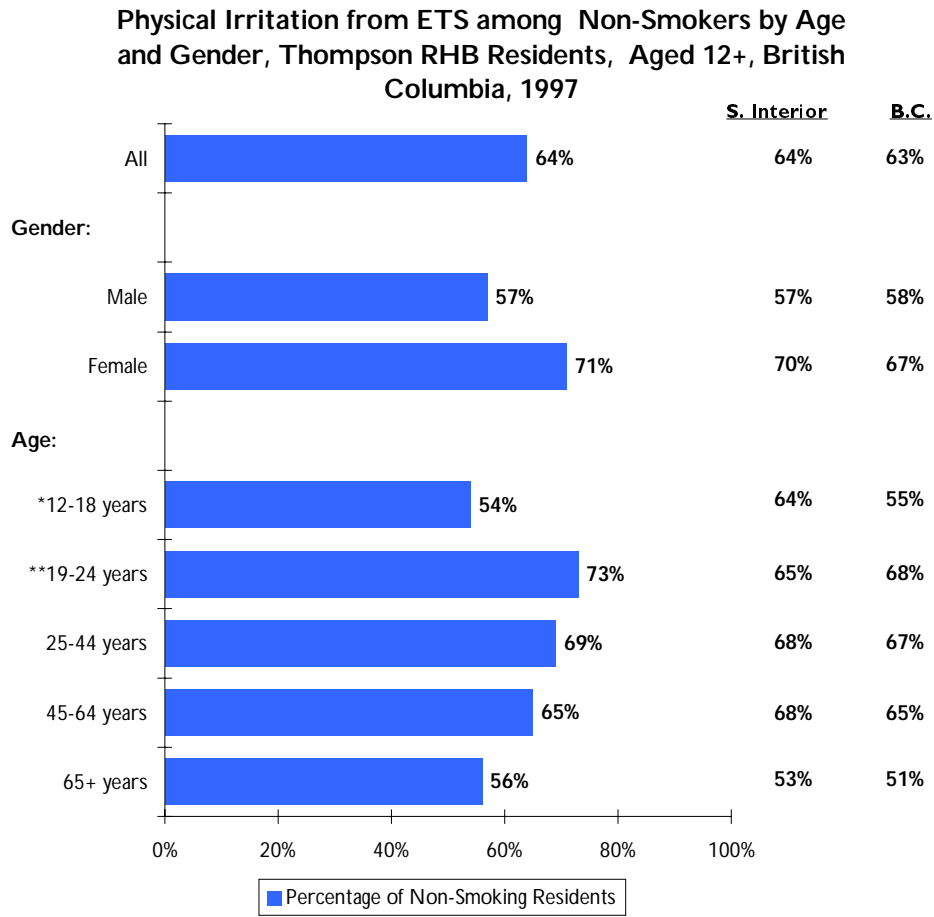
In addition to inquiring directly about tobacco use, the survey also asked residents of Thompson about their exposure to environmental tobacco smoke (ETS), sometimes known as secondhand smoke, in their own homes, at work and school and in other public places. Being exposed to ETS was defined as spending 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 (64%) of non-smokers (i.e., those Thompson residents who do not currently use cigarettes, cigars or a pipe) report they are usually physically irritated by ETS. Interestingly, even 41% of current smokers report physical irritation.

Some gender differences in the proportion of non-smokers are evident with 57% of males versus 71% of females indicating they are usually irritated by ETS. Age related differences are also evident with 73% of non-smokers aged 19 to 24 being irritated by ETS, yet this proportion declines steadily with age to just 56% 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 aged 12-18 where the percentages for Thompson (54%) and the province (55%) are lower than that for the Southern Interior (64%).

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

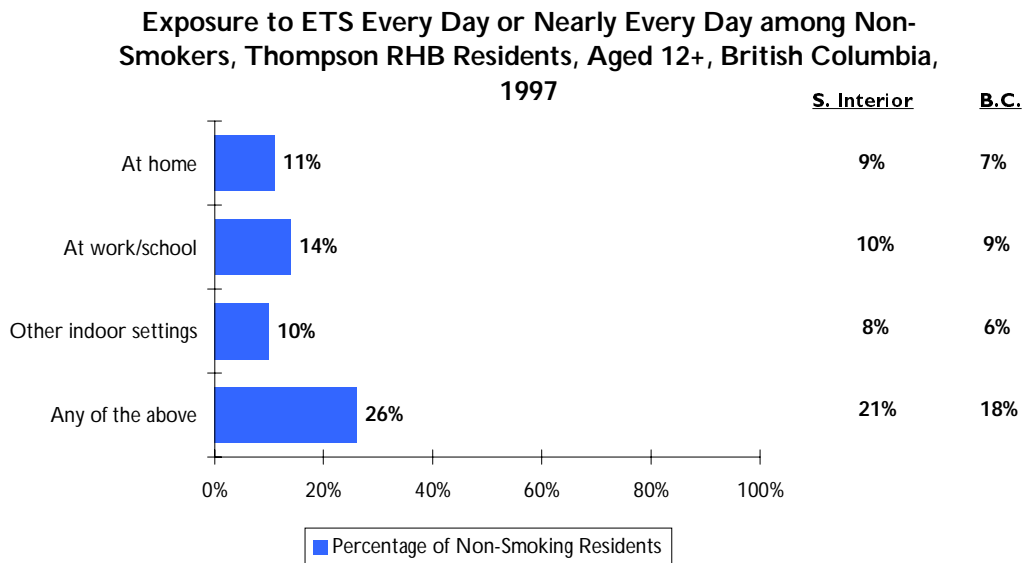


*Non-smoking residents = those who do not currently smoke cigarettes, cigars or pipes.
 *Interpret with caution, subsample base size less than 100
 **Interpret with extreme caution, subsample base size less than 50*

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 Thompson. 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 26% 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 slightly higher than that observed for the Southern Interior region (21%) and for the province as a whole (18%). It seems especially noteworthy that the 26% of non-smoking residents, who are exposed to ETS daily or nearly daily, translates into 19% of all Thompson residents.

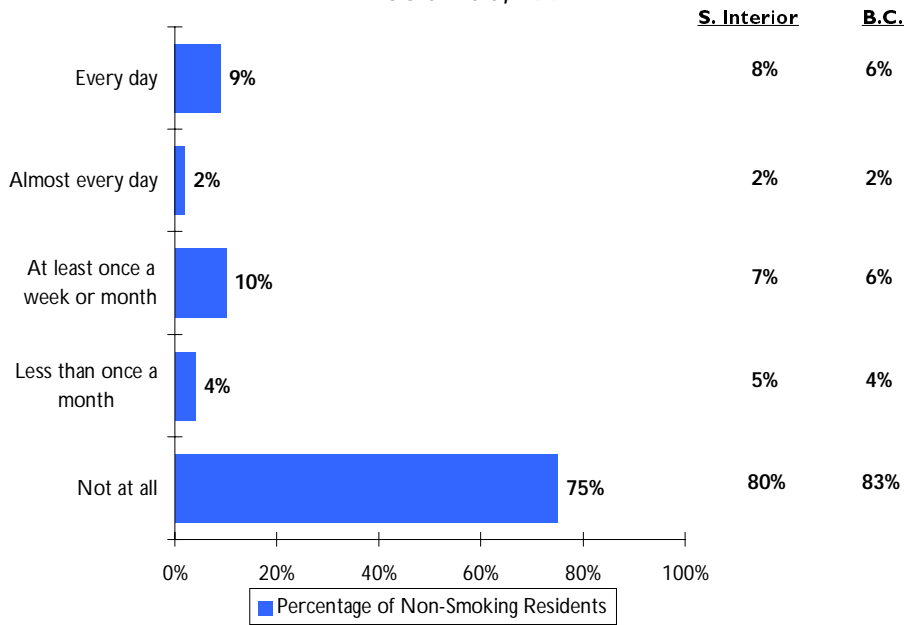


Non-smoking residents = those who do not currently smoke cigarettes, cigars or pipes

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, 11% of non-smokers in Thompson 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. Overall, non-smokers in the Thompson RHB have slightly higher ETS exposure levels at home than their counterparts in the Southern Interior region and the whole province.

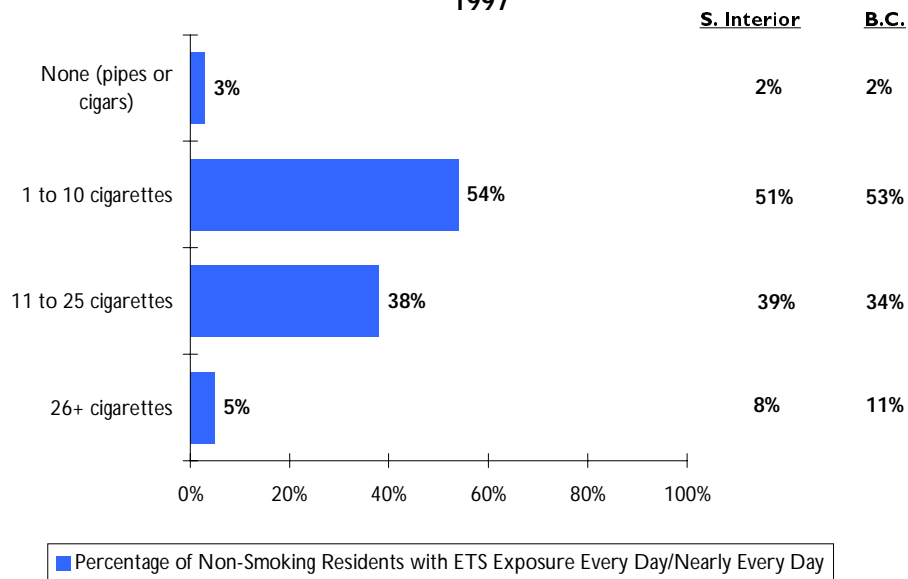
Frequency of Exposure to ETS at Home among Non-Smokers, Thompson RHB Residents, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997



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

Thompson 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-four percent of these residents indicated they are exposed to smoke from 1 to 10 cigarettes per day and 38% 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 13.3, and as shown in the graph to follow, this average is consistent with averages 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†, Thompson RHB Residents, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997

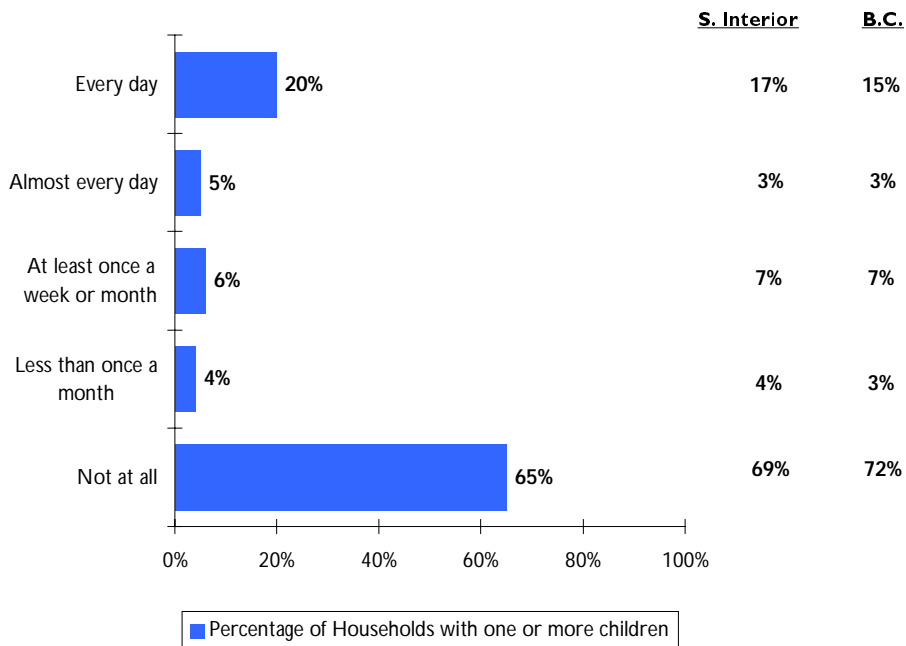


Average: Thompson RHB = 13.3; Region=14.0; B.C.=14.3

†Interpret with caution, total base size less than 100

Households with Children: ETS exposure in Thompson households with children age 11 and under are highlighted in the graph below. In 25% of these households there is daily or nearly daily exposure to ETS, and in 65% 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).

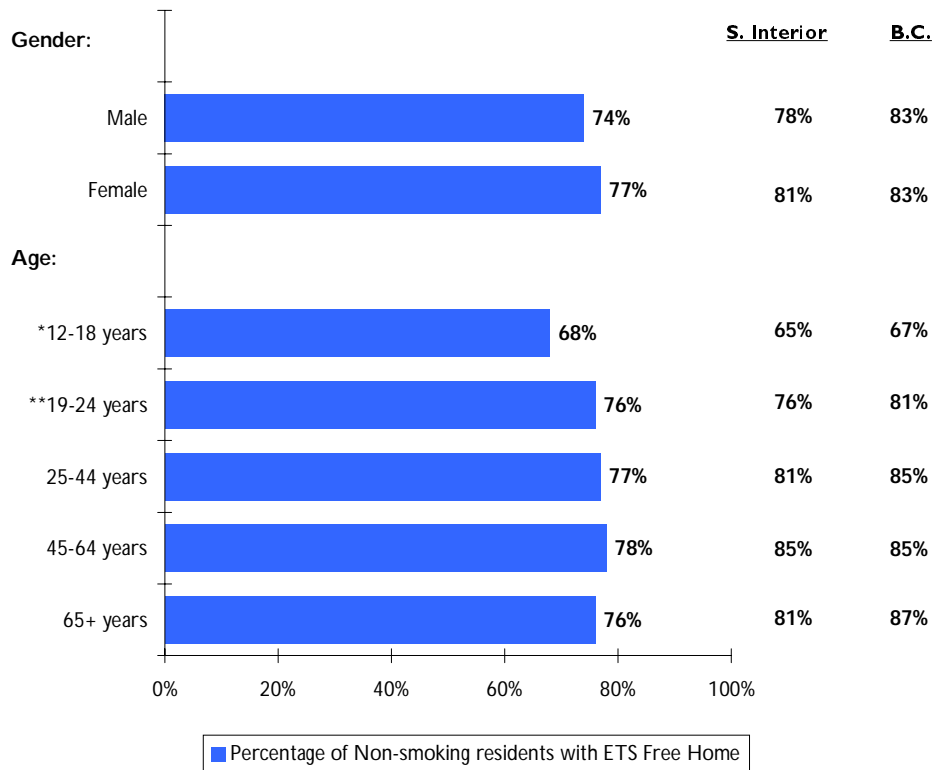
Frequency of Exposure to ETS in Homes with Children Aged 11 Years and Under, Thompson RHB Residents, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997



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 18.9. This average is consistent with that found for such households in the Southern Interior region (18.1) and the province (18.2).

ETS Free Households Non-smoking residents of Thompson who live in households with no ETS exposure at all are about equally likely to be male or female (74% vs. 77%). As shown in the graph, this probability does not vary much depending on the age of the resident, except for 12 to 18 year olds, where only 68% of these non-smoking residents are living in an ETS free home.

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



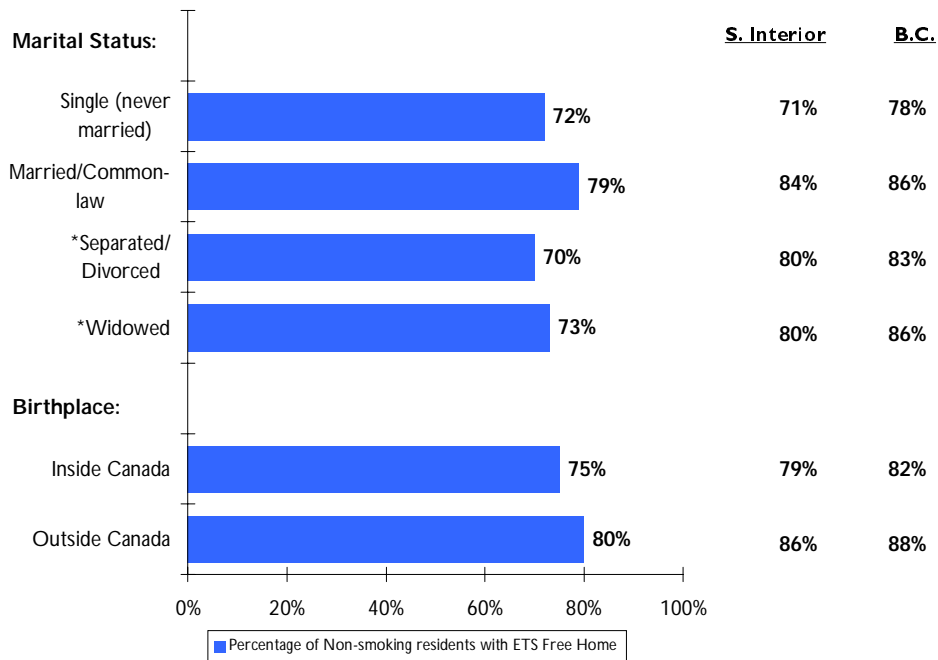
Non-smoking residents = those who do not currently smoke cigarettes, cigars or pipes.

*Interpret with caution, subsample base size less than 100

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

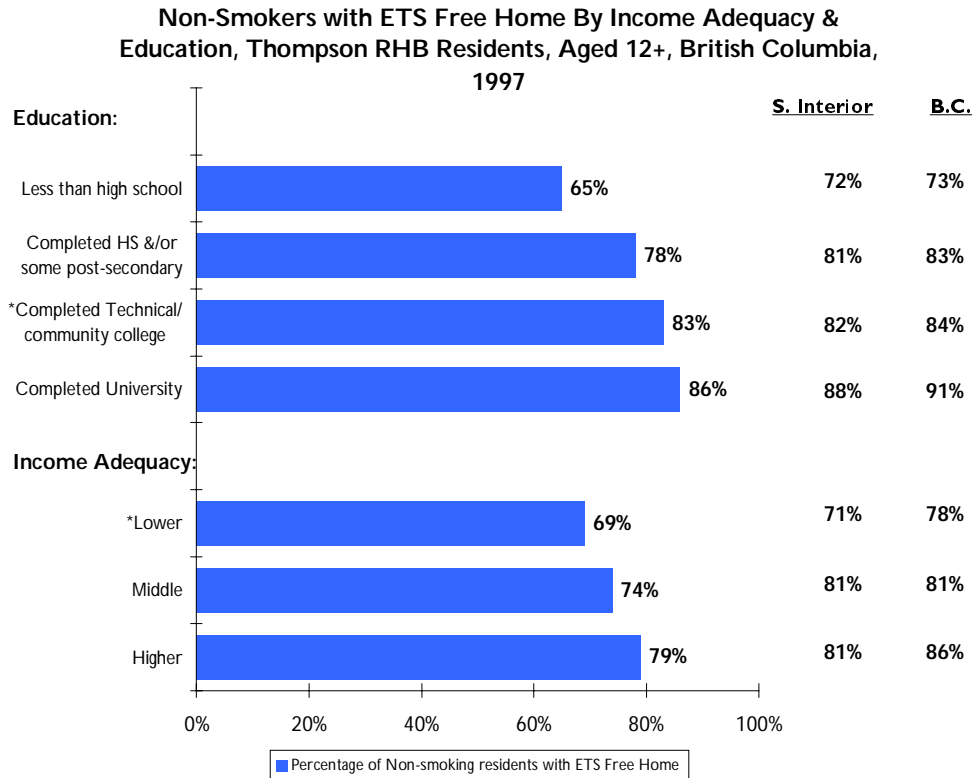
As shown in the following graph, separated or divorced residents who do not smoke are least likely to live in household with no ETS exposure at all (70%), while non-smokers who are married are most likely to live in an ETS free household (79%). By contrast, non-smoking residents who were born outside of Canada are only slightly more likely than those born in Canada to report no ETS at all in their homes (80% vs. 75%).

**Non-Smokers with ETS Free Home by Marital Status & Birthplace,
Thompson 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

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 69% of non-smoking residents with lower income adequacy live in households without any ETS exposure at all, but this percentage rises to 79% 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 (86%).

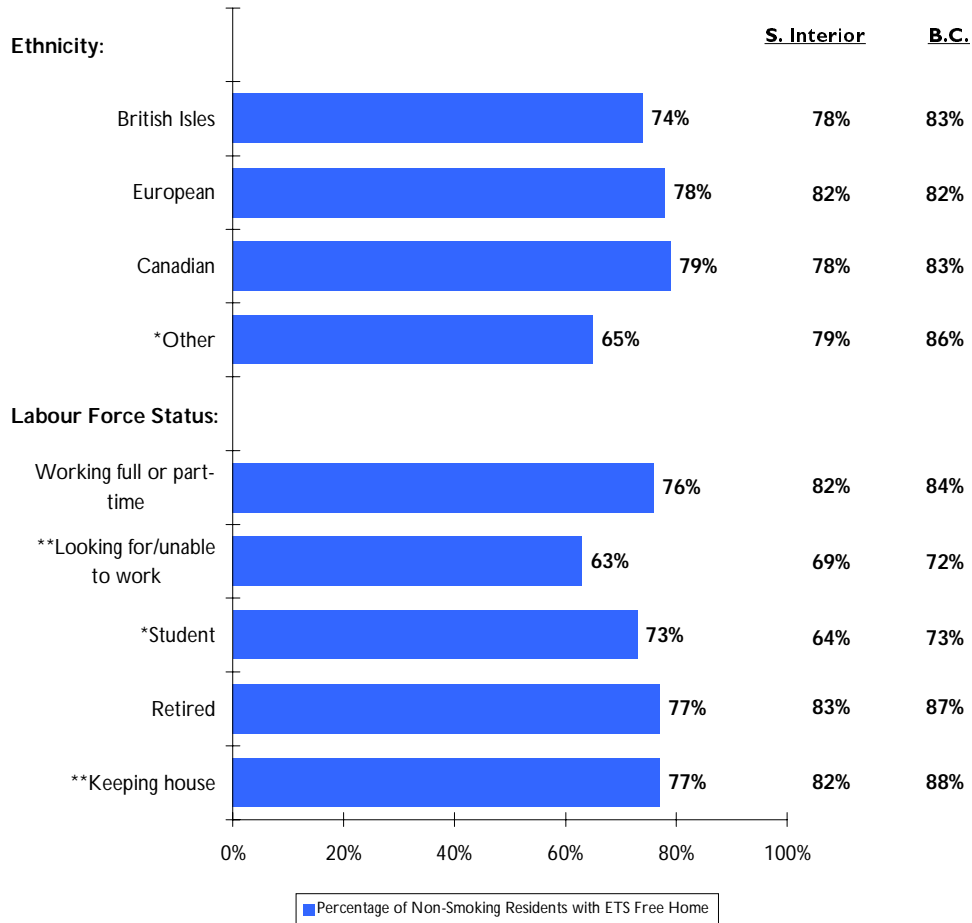


Non-smoking residents = those who do not currently smoke cigarettes, cigars or pipes

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

The graph below displays the same relationship for the ethnicity and labour force status of Thompson residents who do not smoke. For the most part, ethnic group membership appears to be generally unrelated to whether or not non-smoking residents live in a household with no ETS exposure at all. Although, residents who identified some “other” ethnic group are the least likely to live in a ETS free home (65%). 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 looking for work or are unable to work, are least likely to live in an ETS free household (63%). Conversely, non-smoking residents who are either presently employed, retired, or keep house are more likely to live in an ETS free household (76%, 77%, and 77% respectively).

Non-Smokers with ETS Free Home by Ethnicity & Labour Force Status, Thompson 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*

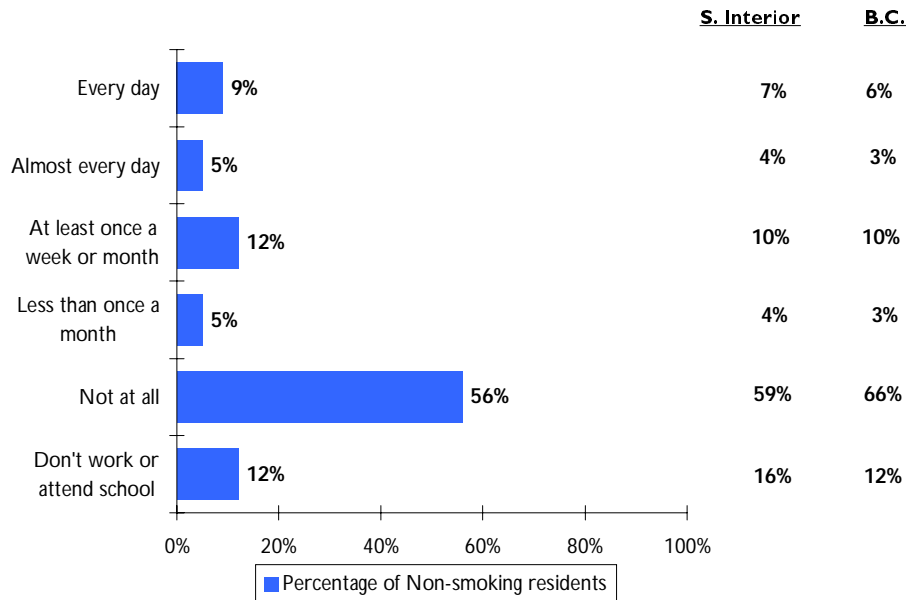
8.7.4 Exposure to ETS at Work or School

Non-smokers in Thompson 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.

The percentage of non-smokers who are ETS free at work/school is generally in keeping with the findings for the entire Southern Interior region (59%), but is lower than that for the province (66%).

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



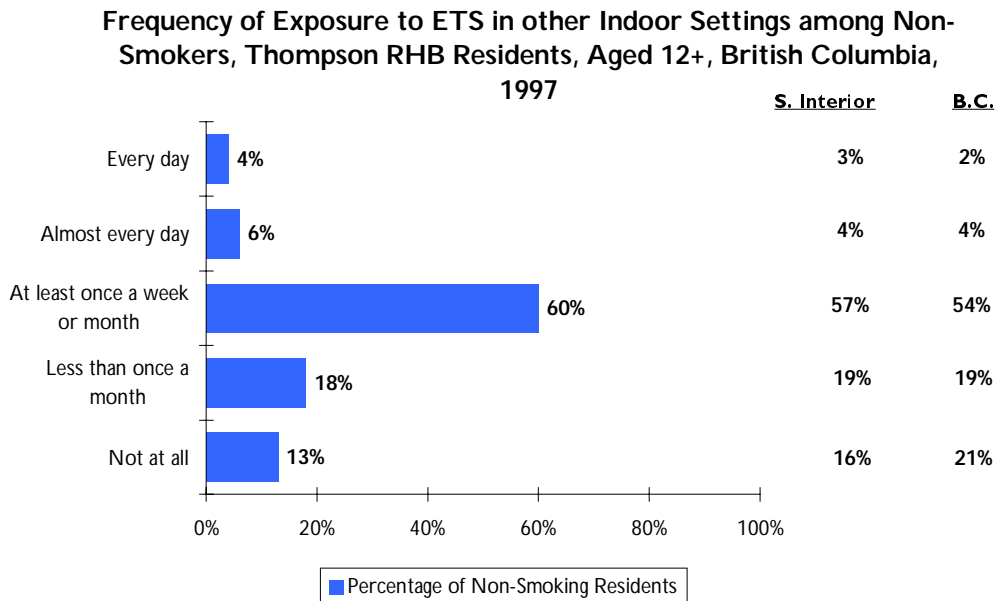
Non-smoking residents = those who do not currently smoke cigarettes, cigars or pipes

Both female non-smoking 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 (61% and 68% respectively). By comparison, other demographic descriptors appear to be unrelated to whether or not the non-smoking residents of Thompson are exposed to ETS at work or school (data not shown).

8.7.5 Exposure to ETS in Other Indoor Settings

All non-smokers in Thompson 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 settings 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 87% of the non-smoking residents in Thompson. Daily or nearly daily exposure in such settings was acknowledged by 10% of non-smoking residents. This percentage appears to be slightly higher than for the province (6%), but is more consistent with the rest of the Southern Interior region (7%).

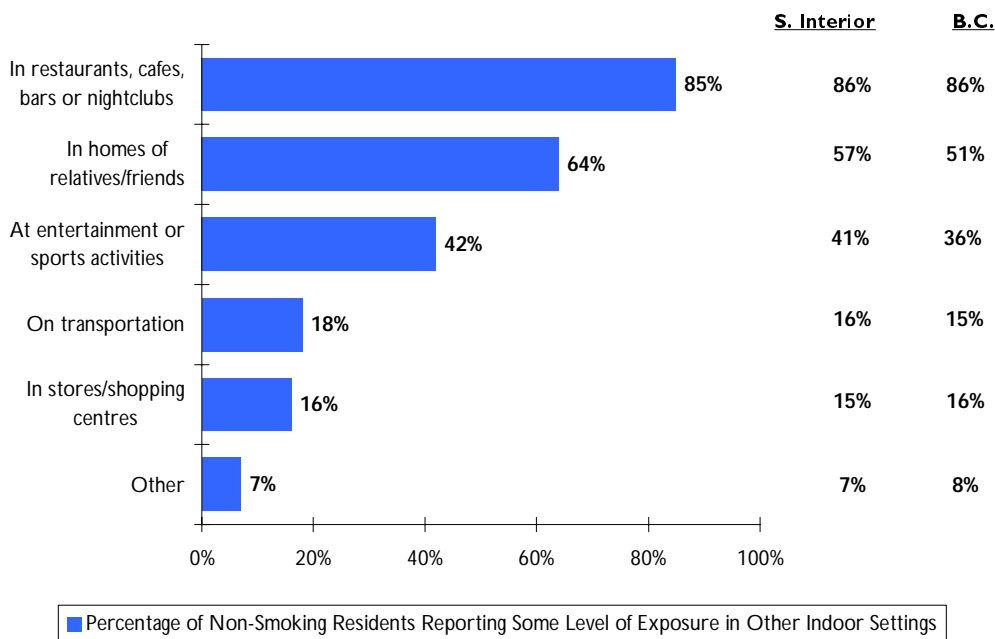


Non-smoking residents = those who do not currently smoke cigarettes, cigars or pipes

The 87% of non-smoking residents of Thompson 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 (64%) and restaurants, cafes, bars or nightclubs (85%), than they do for transportation (18%) and stores or shopping centres (16%). 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, Thompson RHB 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+).

	Thompson RHB Sample	Southern Interior Region Sample	British Columbia Sample
	%	%	%
Gender			
Male	50	50	49
Female	50	50	51
Age			
12-19	15	14	13
20-24	10	8	9
25-44	32	29	34
45-64	29	30	28
65+	14	20	17
<i>Average</i>	<i>41.5</i>	<i>44.6</i>	<i>42.8</i>
Marital Status			
Single	33	29	35
Married/Common Law	51	54	49
Separated/Divorced	9	8	8
Widowed	7	8	7
Children			
None	73	76	76
One	12	12	12
Two or more	15	13	12
Education			
Less than High School	9	8	6
Some High School	22	21	16
Completed High School	23	24	23
Some or Completed Technical/Community College	22	21	21
Some University	9	8	10
Completed University	10	10	15
Graduate Degree	5	5	8
Income Adequacy			
Low	6	6	5
Lower-Middle	12	12	10
Middle	30	31	26
Upper-Middle	34	36	38
High	18	15	21

	Thompson RHB Sample	Southern Interior Region Sample	British Columbia Sample
	%	%	%
Labour Force Status			
Working full-time	37	33	41
Working part-time	10	9	9
Self-Employed	10	11	9
Looking for work or unable to work	8	7	6
Student	11	9	10
Retired	19	26	20
Keeping house	5	5	4
Place of Birth			
In Canada	87	87	79
Outside Canada	13	13	21
Ethnicity			
British	49	50	47
European	43	46	38
South Asian	2	1	2
South East Asian	2	2	6
Canadian	16	13	13
Aboriginal	6	4	3

Demographically, the Thompson RHB differs from British Columbia on the following:

Education - Thompson has more residents with high school or less (54% vs. 45%) and fewer university graduates (15% vs. 23%);

Income Adequacy - Thompson has more residents with a middle income adequacy (30% vs. 26%) and less residents with an upper-middle income adequacy (34% vs. 38%);

Employment Status - Thompson has fewer residents who are working full-time (37% vs. 41%);

Place of Birth - Thompson has more residents born inside Canada (87% vs. 79%) and fewer born outside Canada (13% vs. 21%); and,

Ethnicity - Thompson has fewer residents with a South East Asian background (2% vs. 6%) and more with a European background (43% vs. 38%).