

8. South Fraser RHB Report

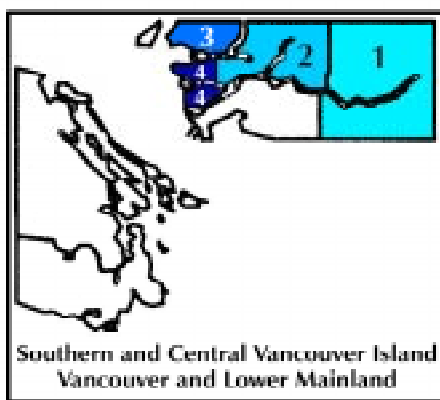
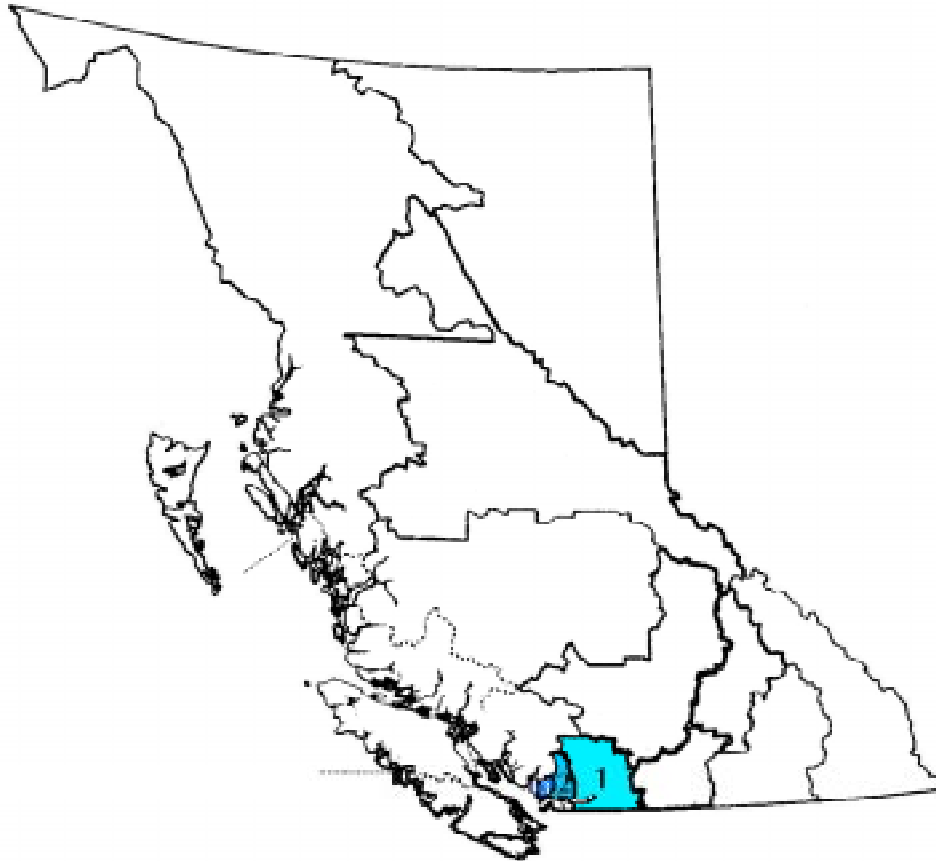
8.1 Introduction

The results presented in this report are based on approximately 1,000 interviews with B.C. residents living within the South Fraser 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 South Fraser have been compared with results for the province overall and a macro region called the Lower Mainland which includes Fraser Valley, South Fraser, 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 South Fraser area make up 19% of residents while former smokers represent 30% and never smokers 51%. The vast majority of current smokers (80%) 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, 19% of South Fraser residents are current users, 31% are former users, 27% are lifetime abstainers and 23% are past experimenters or beginners. The average age of initiation for current and former cigarette smokers is similar (15.7 and 16.5). The average age of initiation is higher for ever users (current and former) of other forms of tobacco – cigars (23.5), pipes (24.5) and smokeless tobacco (26.4).

In the South Fraser 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 who are male, those with middle income adequacy and those between the ages 19 to 24.

ETS - Six-in-ten non-smokers and 36% smokers report physical irritation to their eyes, breathing or throat due to ETS. Amongst non-smokers, 9% report every day or almost every day ETS exposure at home, 9% at work or school and 5% in other indoor settings. This results in 18% of South Fraser non-smoking residents who are exposed to ETS every day or almost every day or the equivalent of 15% of all South Fraser residents. In total, 34% of South Fraser residents' health is being adversely affected by tobacco (19% through current tobacco use and 15% through ETS).

8.3 Tobacco Use Status of South Fraser Residents

Detailed information concerning past and present use of all forms of tobacco, by the residents of South Fraser (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 South Fraser (aged 12+), is 19%. Daily users predominate among current cigarette smokers at 16%, while non-daily smokers represent 3% of all residents. As shown in the graph, this prevalence rate is similar to that found in the Lower Mainland region (20%) and the entire province (22%).

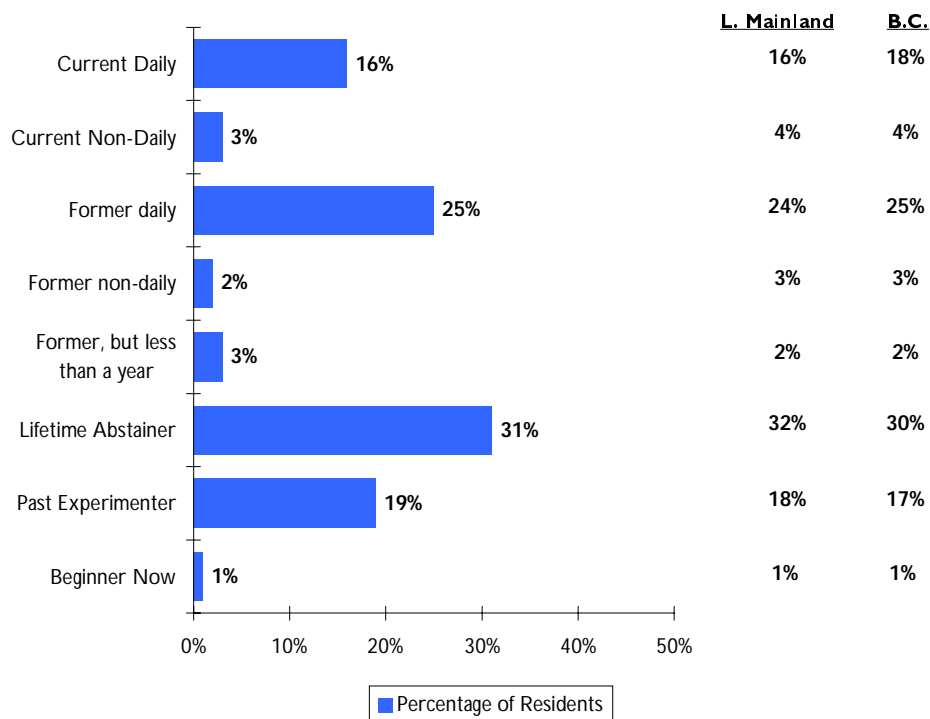
Former cigarette smokers comprise 30% of all South Fraser residents. This percentage includes former daily smokers (25%), former non-daily smokers (2%), and former smokers, who quit less than a year ago (3%). These percentages are also quite similar to those found for the Lower Mainland region and the entire province.

By contrast, South Fraser RHB residents who have never smoked cigarettes represent 51% of the population aged 12+ years. These never users include lifetime abstainers (31%), past experimenters (19%), and beginners (1%). A comparison with these same

percentages for the Lower Mainland region and for the entire province suggests a nearly identical pattern.

In sum, current cigarette smokers make up 19% of residents in the South Fraser, while former smokers represent 30% and never smokers 51%. Overall, these proportions are similar to those found for the Lower Mainland region and the province.

Cigarette Smoking Status of South Fraser RHB Residents, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997



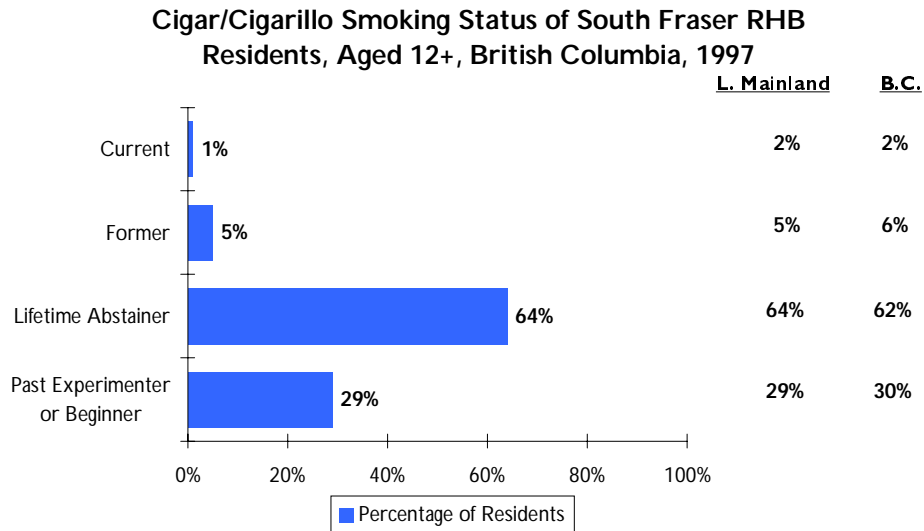
8.3.2 Alternate Tobacco Use Status

Cigar/Cigarillo Smoking Status

For cigar smoking among residents of the South Fraser, 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 South Fraser 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 the South Fraser represent 5% of residents, while those who have never smoked cigars make up 93% of the residential population. This never user group includes lifetime abstainers (64%) and past experimenters or beginners (29%). These percentages are also in line with those found for the Lower Mainland region and for the whole province.



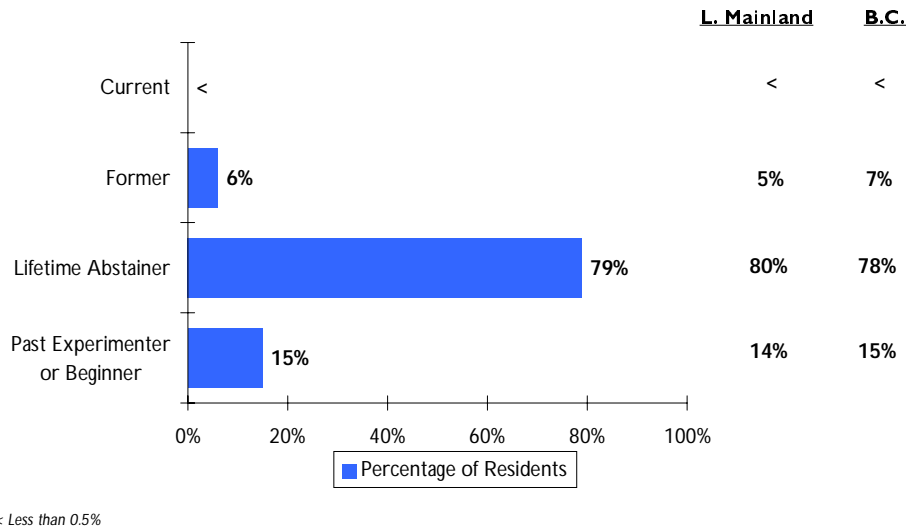
Pipe Smoking Status

For the smoking of pipe tobacco among South Fraser 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 South Fraser residents is less than 0.5%. Like cigar smoking, there are insufficient numbers of pipe smokers in the South Fraser 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 the South Fraser represent 6% of all residents, while those who have never smoked pipe tobacco make up fully 94% of the residential population. This never user group includes lifetime abstainers (79%) and a smaller group of past experimenters or beginners (15%). These percentages are also in keeping with those found for the Lower Mainland region and for the whole province.

Pipe Smoking Status of South Fraser RHB Residents, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997



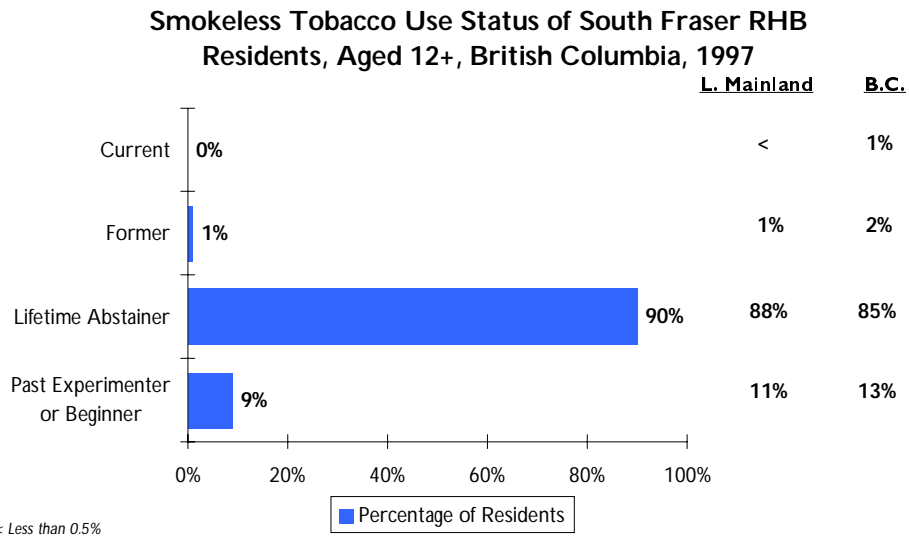
Smokeless Tobacco Use Status

Smokeless tobacco use (i.e., snuff, pinch and chewing tobacco) among South Fraser 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 the South Fraser is 0%. As shown in the graph, this estimated prevalence for smokeless tobacco use is consistent with estimates for both the Lower Mainland region and the entire province.

Former users of smokeless tobacco products represent only 1% of all South Fraser residents, while residents who have never used smokeless tobacco represent fully 99% of the population aged 12+ years. As shown in the graph, this never user group includes lifetime abstainers (90%) and past experimenters or beginners (9%). This percentage for past experimenters/beginners in the South Fraser is similar to the Lower Mainland

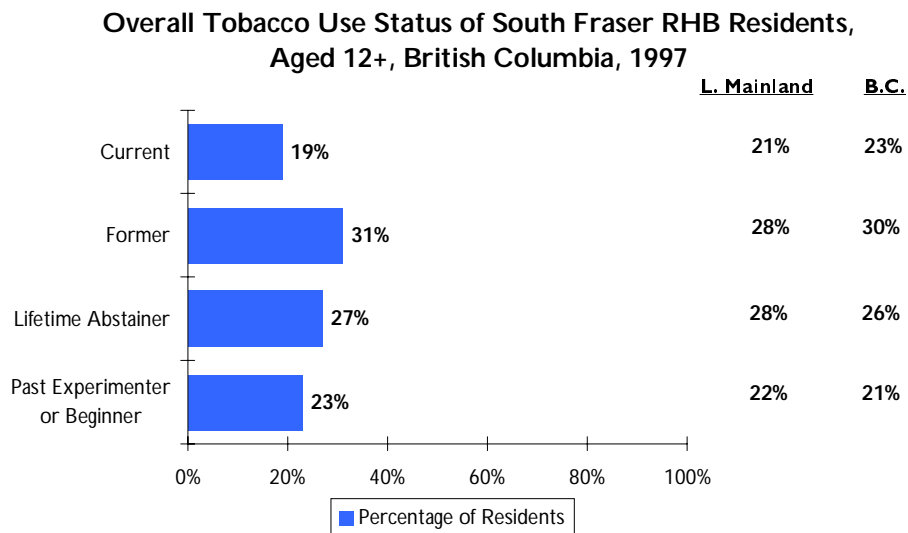
region (11%) but slightly lower than the province as a whole (13%). Conversely, the South Fraser has slightly more lifetime abstainers than the province (90% vs. 85%).



8.3.3 Overall Tobacco Use Status

The current prevalence of any form of tobacco use among South Fraser 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 South Fraser.

Non-use is presently the norm among residents of the South Fraser, with 81% of the aged 12+ population indicating they do not currently use any form of tobacco. On the other hand, the survey does show that 19% of residents are currently using at least one form of tobacco. Former tobacco users represent 31% of the South Fraser population, while never users include past experimenters or beginners at 23% and lifetime abstainers at 27%. As shown in the graph, these findings are similar to those found elsewhere in province and in the Lower Mainland.



8.4 Social Demographics of Tobacco Use

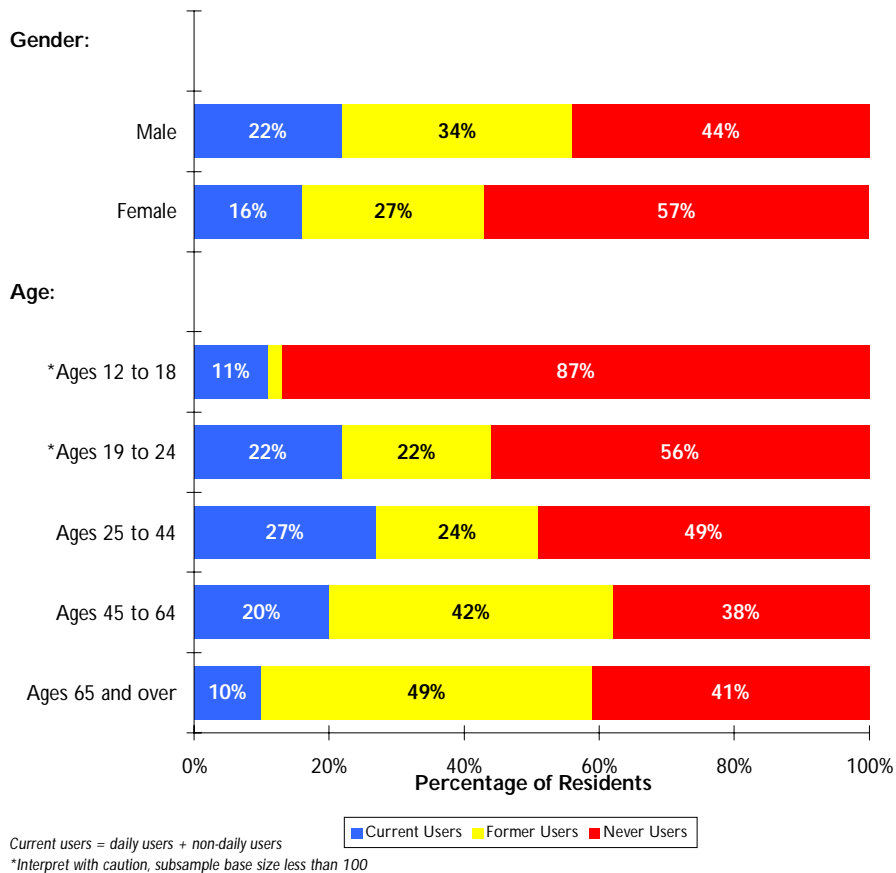
In this section, use of any form of tobacco (i.e., current, former vs. never) has been cross tabulated against a range of social demographic characteristics of residents, in order to demonstrate a number of social and economic variations in tobacco usage. As already outlined in *Overall Tobacco Use Status*, 19% of all South Fraser residents are current tobacco users, 31% are former users, and 50% 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 (22% vs. 16%) and former tobacco users (34% vs. 27%). On the other hand, female residents are more likely than male residents to have never been a tobacco user (57% vs. 44%).

In terms of age, current tobacco use is highest among 25 to 44 year olds (27%), and lowest among 12 to 18 year olds (11%) and those aged 65 and over (10%). Being a former user of tobacco rises steadily with age, from 2% among 12 to 18 year olds to 49% among residents aged 65 and over. On the other hand, the proportion of residents who have never used tobacco drops dramatically from 87% of 12 to 18 years olds to 56% of those aged 19 to 24 years, and continues to decline across the 25 to 44, 45 to 64 and 65+ age groupings.

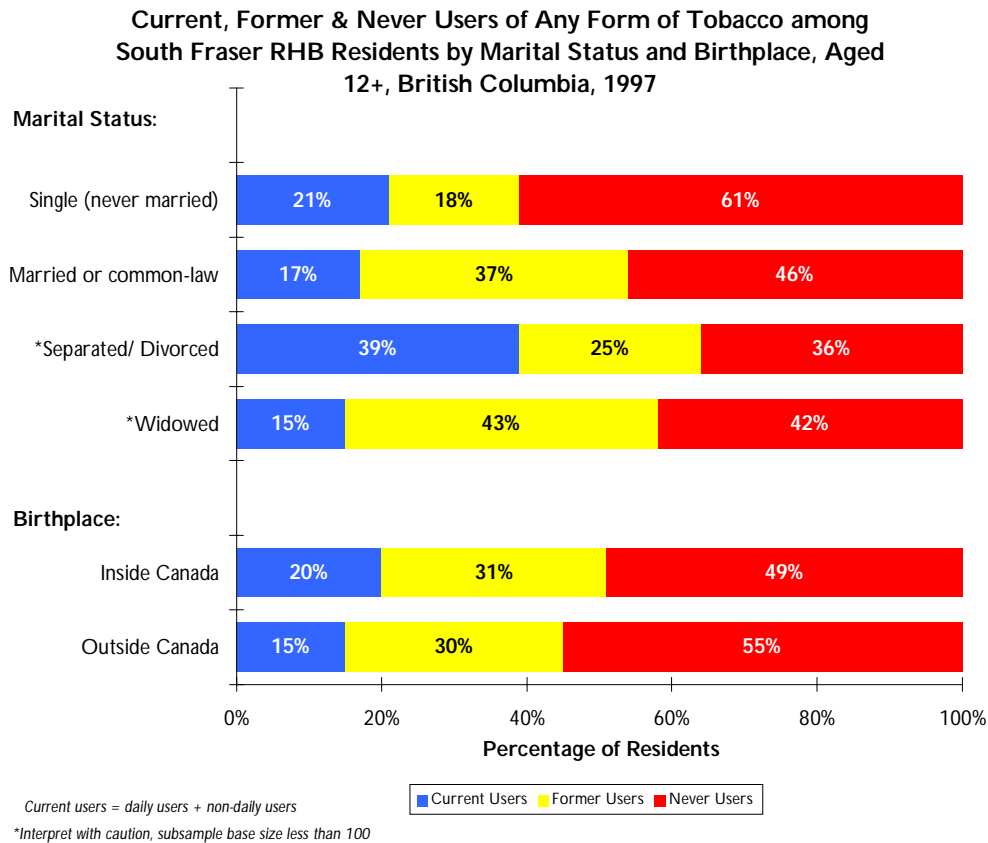
Current, Former & Never Users of Any Form of Tobacco among South Fraser RHB Residents by Gender and Age, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997



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. Residents of the South Fraser RHB who were born in Canada are slightly more likely than those born outside of Canada to be current users (20% vs. 15%). Differences in rates of tobacco use are also 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 (39%), while the proportion of former users is highest among those who are presently married or living common law (37%) or

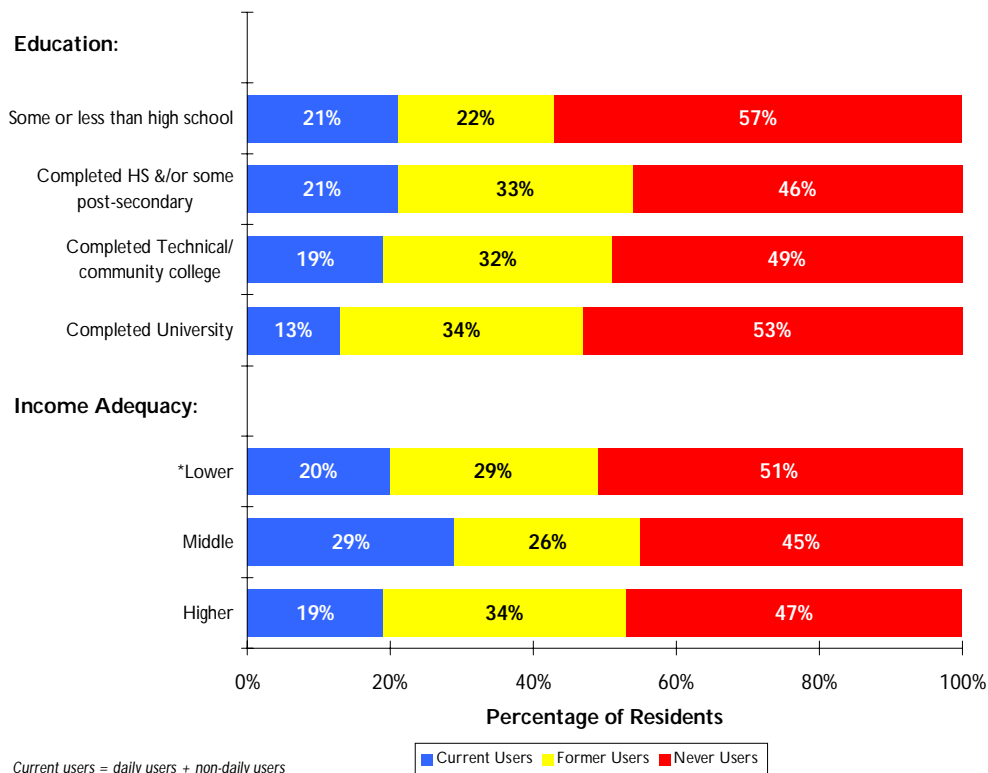
widowed (43%). Finally, those residents who have never married (i.e., single) are most likely (61%) to have never been users of tobacco.



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. Income adequacy has no clear relationship with tobacco use, with the highest and lowest levels having similar proportions of current users and the middle level having the highest proportion of current users. Education, on the other hand, appears to have a stronger relationship with tobacco use in that the highest education level (university graduates) are the least likely to be current users (13%).

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



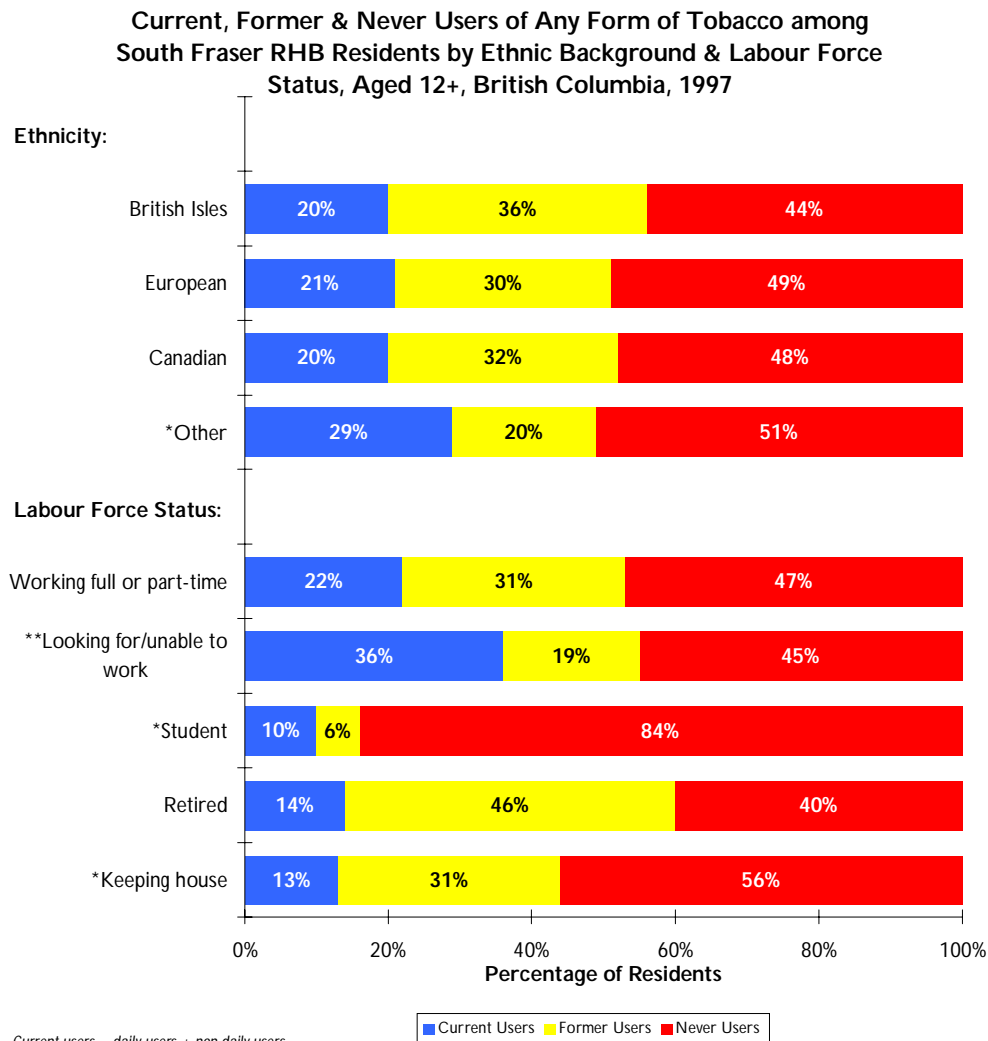
Current users = daily users + non-daily users
 *Interpret with caution, subsample base size less than 100

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 South Fraser residents who are either looking for work or who are unable to work the proportion of current users is 36%. By contrast, the proportion of current users among those working full or part-time is just 22%. Current

use of any form of tobacco by students and retired residents is very low (10% and 14% respectively), but these proportions are largely attributable to the age of these residents, rather than their labour force status. Current use of tobacco is also low among residents who are keeping house (13%).



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

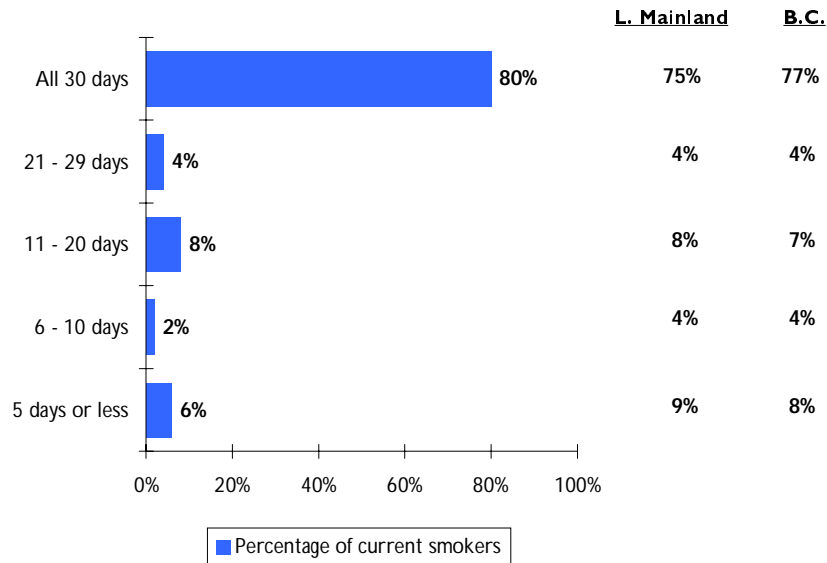
8.5 Frequency of Cigarette Smoking among Current Users

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.

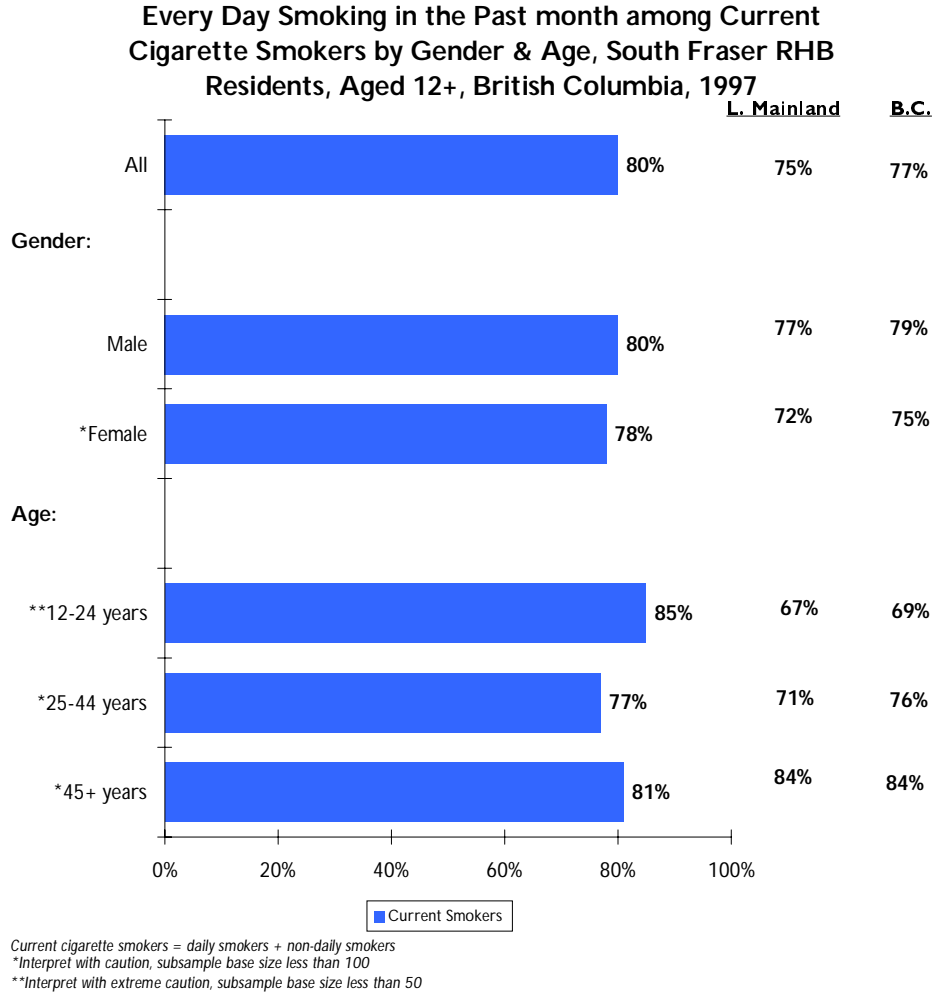
8.5.1 Days Smoked in Past Month

The number of days in the past month in which current cigarette smokers in the South Fraser 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 6% of smokers, while smoking on all 30 days during the past month was reported by fully 80% of current cigarette smokers. This rate for every day smoking is slightly higher than that found in the Lower Mainland (75%), but about the same as the province (77%).

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



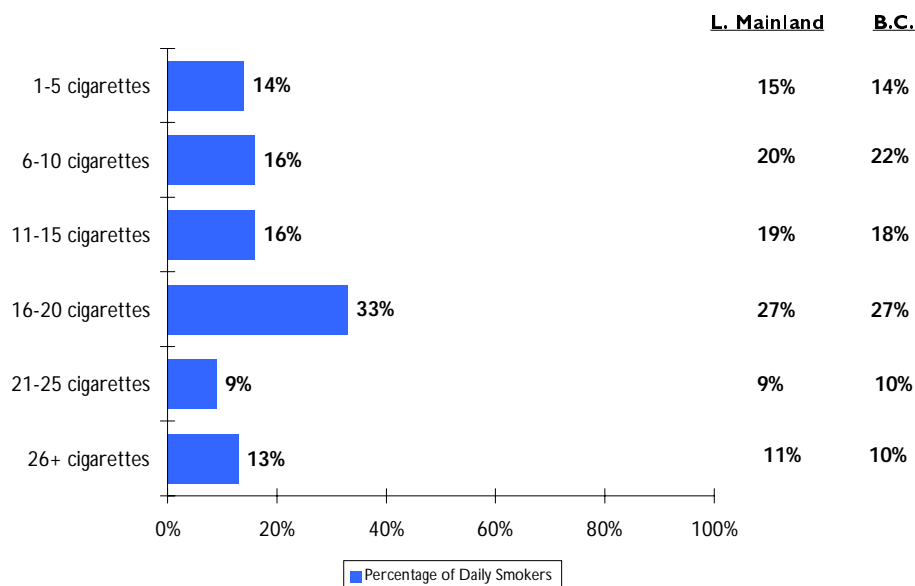
As shown in the following graph, females and males have the same likelihood of reporting smoking on all 30 days in the past month (i.e., are daily smokers) (78% vs. 80%). Determining differences among age categories is difficult because of small sample sizes. However, it does not appear that every day smoking increases with age among cigarette smokers in South Fraser. The absence of gender and age differences here is contrary to that reported by cigarette smokers in the Lower Mainland region and in the province.



8.5.2 Cigarettes per Day by Daily Smokers

Among daily cigarette smokers in the South Fraser only 14% report averaging 5 or fewer cigarettes per day, but as can be seen in the graph below, 22% report averaging more than 20 cigarettes per day. The average number cigarettes smoked per day by daily cigarette smokers in the South Fraser is 17.6. This average number is marginally higher than 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, South Fraser RHB Residents, Aged 12+,
British Columbia, 1997**



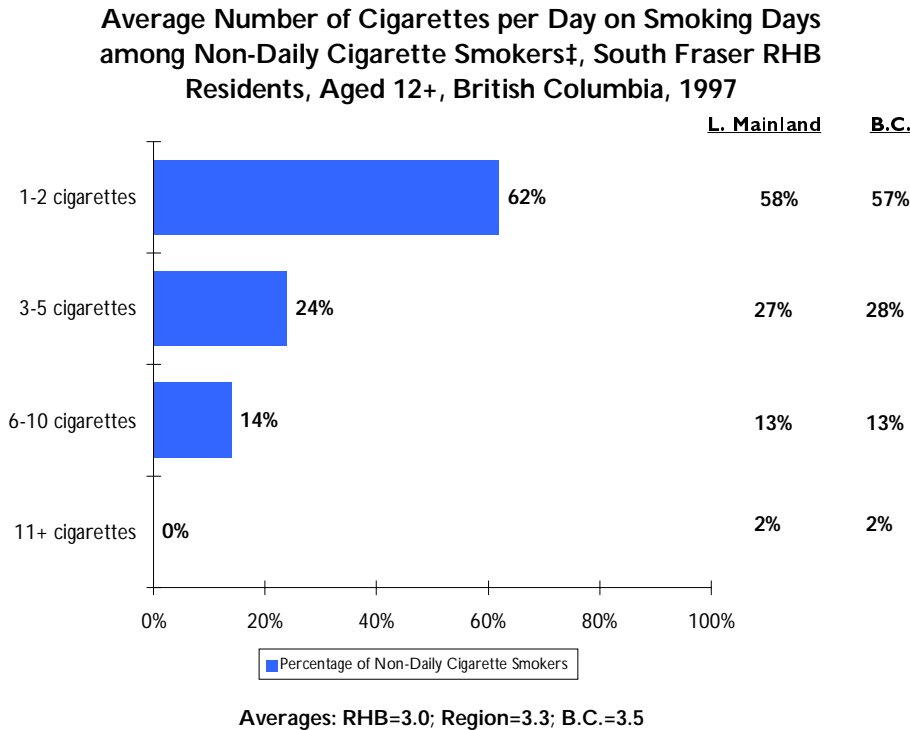
Averages: RHB=17.6; Region = 16.7; B.C. = 16.6

As shown in the table, on average males smoke more per day than females (18.7 vs. 16.1). The base sizes for age groupings make reporting unclear, but do suggest that the average number of cigarettes per day increases with age, which is consistent with regional and provincial results. These 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, South Fraser RHB Residents Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997			
	South Fraser RHB	Lower Mainland	B.C.
All	17.6	16.7	16.6
Gender:			
*Male	18.7	18.1	18.2
*Female	16.1	15.0	15.0
Age:			
**12-24 years	14.9	12.6	12.2
*25-44 years	16.9	16.1	16.8
**45+ years	19.6	18.8	18.7
*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 South Fraser (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 62% of these smokers report having only 1 to 2 per day, 24% report having 3 to 5 per day, and just 14% report having 6 - 10 cigarettes per day on the days that they smoke. The average number of cigarettes per day for this non-daily group is 3.0. These percentages are consistent with those of other non-daily cigarette smokers in the Lower Mainland region and the province (see graph).



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

8.6 Age of Initiation for Tobacco Use

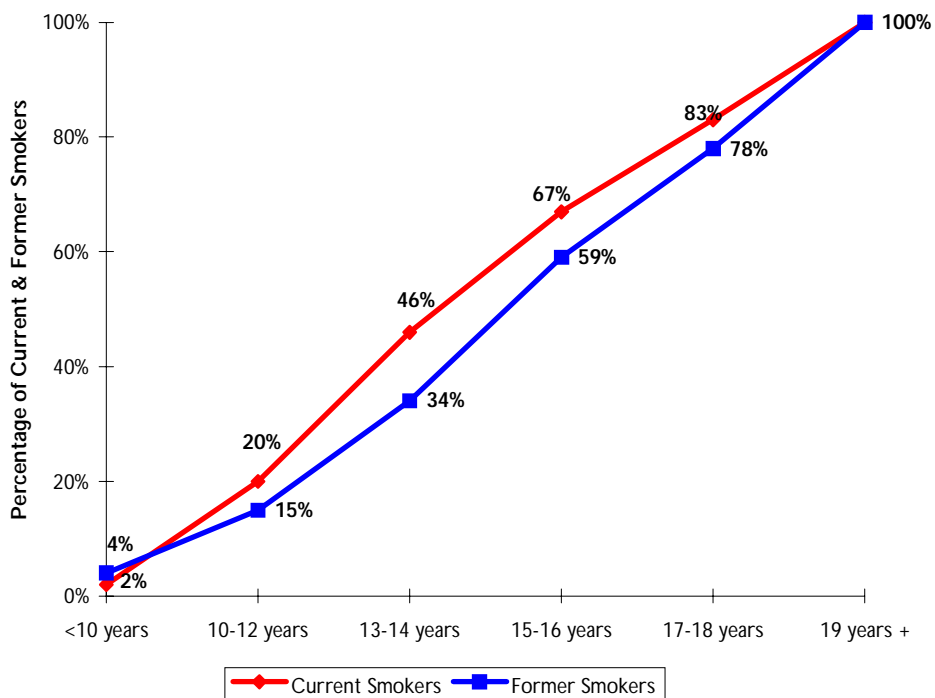
Both former and current users of tobacco identified by the survey were asked their age when they first started using various tobacco products. In the case of cigarettes, they were asked either their age when they smoked their first whole cigarette (if aged 12 to 19 years), or alternatively, their age 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 the South Fraser is displayed in the graph for current cigarette smokers and former cigarette smokers. Among **current** cigarette smokers, 20% began smoking before the age of 13, 46% began smoking before age 15 and 83% began smoking before age 19. The average age of initiation for those South Fraser residents who currently smoke cigarettes is 15.7 years. This pattern of responses is similar among **former** cigarette smokers, with 15% indicating they began smoking before the age of 13, 34% began before age 15 and 78% began before age 19. The average age of initiation among former cigarette smokers is 16.5 years.

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

- Age when smoked first cigarette or started smoking cigarettes -

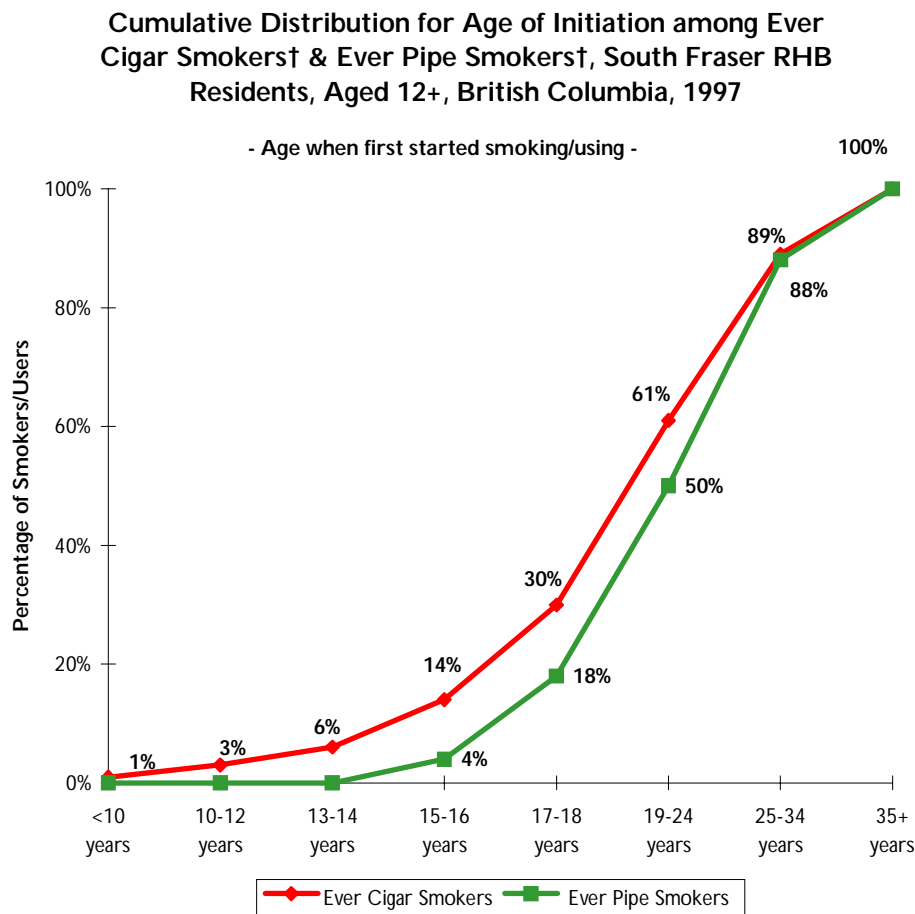


As shown in the table below, these average ages for the onset of cigarette smoking are nearly identical to those observed in the Lower Mainland region and in the entire province.

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



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

Among those South Fraser residents who have ever smoked cigars, just 3% began smoking cigars before age 13, 30% began before age 19, 61% began before age 25, and 89% began before age 35. Compared to cigarette smoking, the average age of onset for

cigar smoking is somewhat older at 23.5 years and this is similar to the averages found for cigar smoking in the Lower Mainland region (23.1 years) and the province (22.8 years).

For South Fraser residents who have ever smoked pipe tobacco, 0% began smoking a pipe before age 15, 18% began before age 19, 50% began before age 25, and 88% began before age 35. The average age of onset for pipe smoking is even older than that for cigars at 24.5 years. This is very close to the average ages found in the Lower Mainland region (24.2 years) and the province (24.6 years).

Amongst the few residents of the South Fraser who have ever used smokeless tobacco, the average age of initiation is 26.4 years. While this average age is higher than those for the Lower Mainland region and the province, this difference may be attributable to the very small sample size for the South Fraser RHB.

Average Age of Initiation among Ever Cigar Smokers†, Ever Pipe Smokers† & Ever Smokeless Users‡, South Fraser RHB Residents, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997			
	South Fraser RHB	Lower Mainland	B.C.
	Years	Years	Years
Ever Cigar Smoker	23.5	23.1	22.8
Ever Pipe Smoker	24.5	24.2	24.6
Ever Smokeless User	26.4	23.2	21.8

†Interpret with caution, total base size less than 100
‡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 the South Fraser 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.

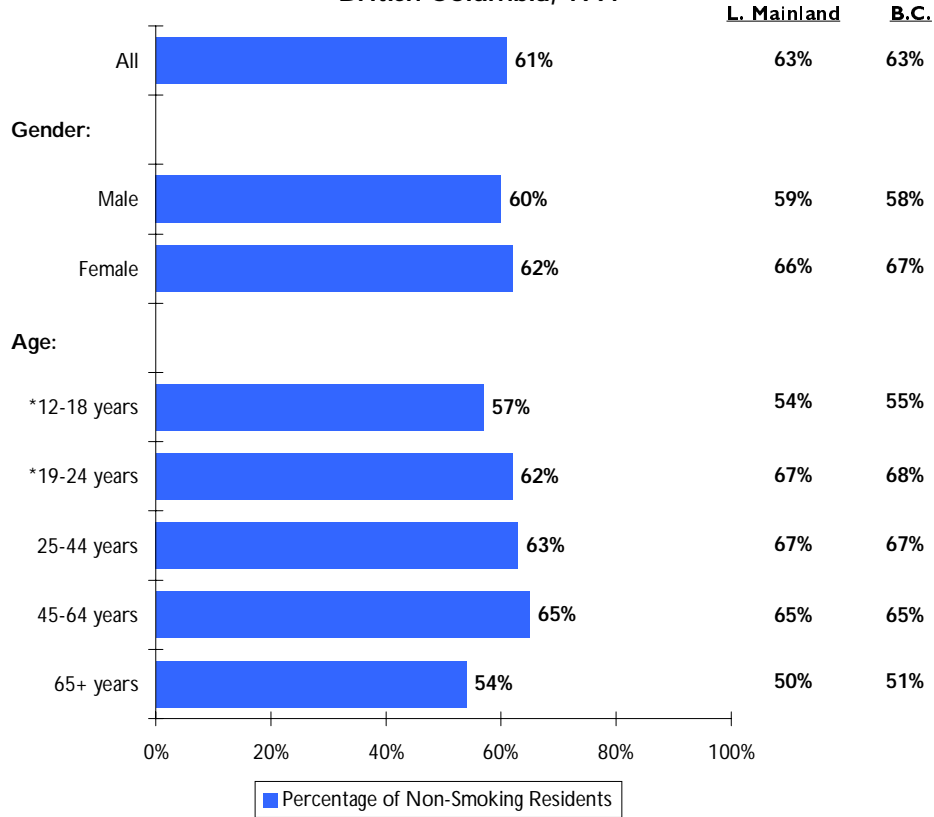
8.7.1 Irritation From Exposure to ETS

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. Six in ten (61%) non-smokers (i.e., those South Fraser residents who do not currently smoke cigarettes, cigars or a pipe) report they are usually physically irritated by ETS. Interestingly, even 36% of current smokers report physical irritation.

There is little gender difference in the proportion of non-smokers reporting that they are usually irritated by ETS (60% of males versus 62% of females). Some differences are evident in the graph following, as the proportion of residents irritated by ETS rises from 57% among those aged 12 to 18 to 65% among those 45 to 64 years and then dips for those aged 65 or older. As displayed in the graph, this general pattern 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 by other demographic descriptors.

Physical Irritation from ETS among Non-Smokers by Age and Gender, South Fraser RHB Residents, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997

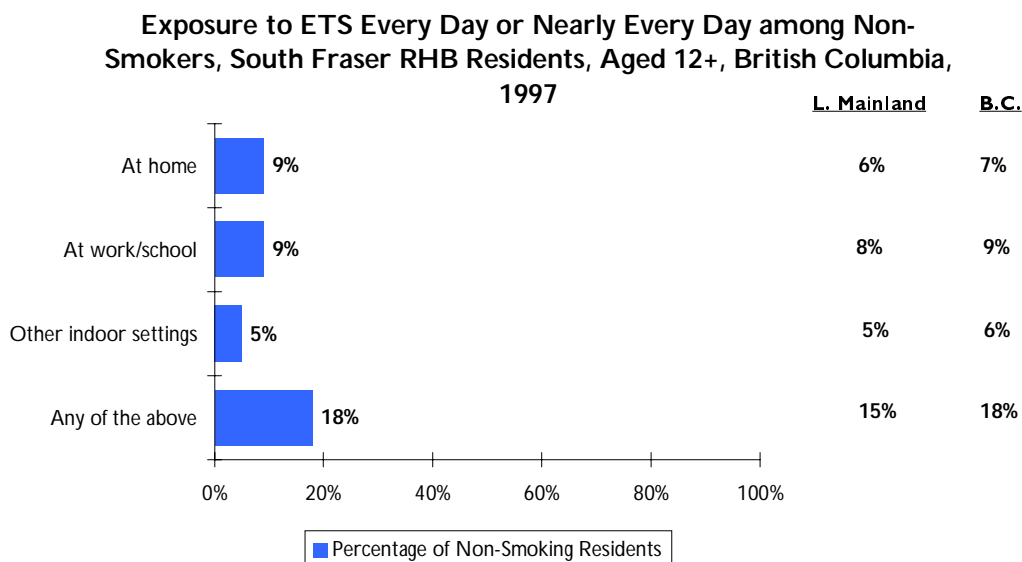


*Non-smoking residents = those who do not currently smoke cigarettes, cigars or pipes.
 Interpret with caution, subsample base size less than 100

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 South Fraser. 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 18% 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%) and for the province as a whole

(18%). It seems especially noteworthy that the 18% of non-smoking residents, who are exposed to ETS daily or nearly daily, translates into 15% of all South Fraser residents.

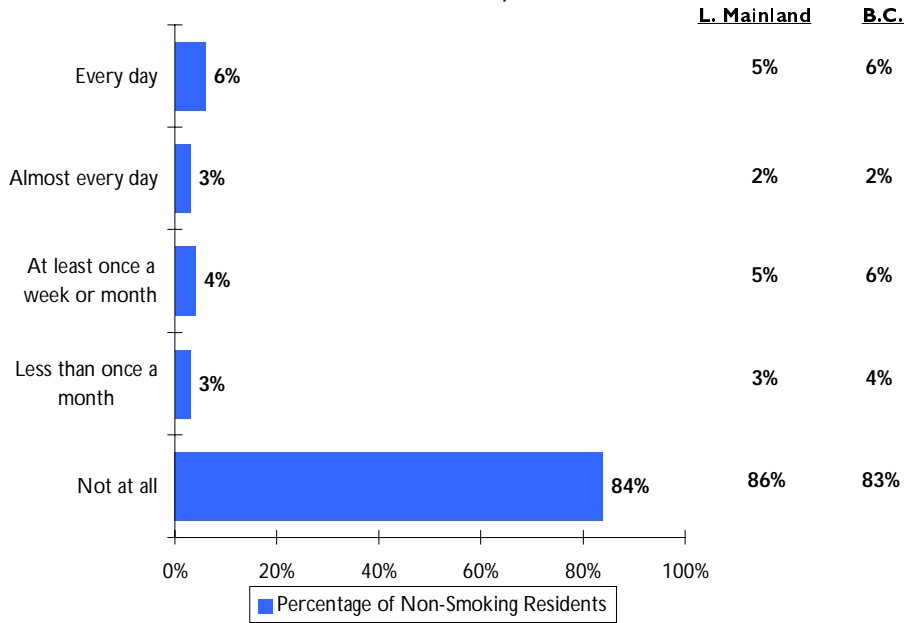


Non-smoking residents = those who do not currently smoke cigarettes, cigars or pipes.

8.7.3 Exposure to ETS at Home

Non-Smokers: For non-smoking residents, response options for frequency of exposure to ETS inside their 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, 9% of non-smokers in the South Fraser report being exposed to ETS inside their home on a daily or nearly daily basis. On the other hand, 84% report no exposure to ETS at all in their homes. Non-smokers in the South Fraser have a similar ETS exposure levels than the Lower Mainland region and for the whole province.

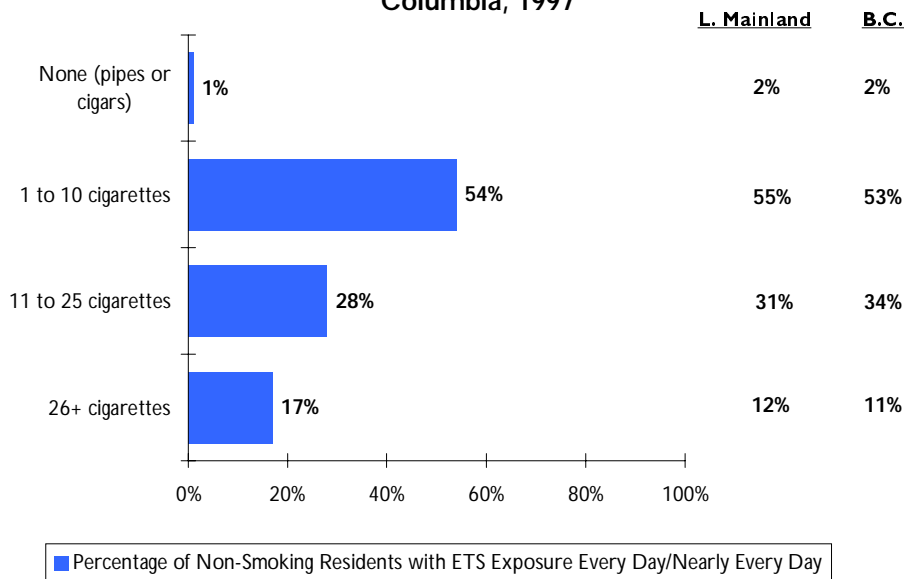
Frequency of Exposure to ETS at Home among Non-Smokers, South Fraser RHB Residents, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997



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

South Fraser 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 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 14.9, and as shown in the graph to follow, this average is very similar to other non-smokers in the Lower Mainland region (14.2) and the province (14.3).

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

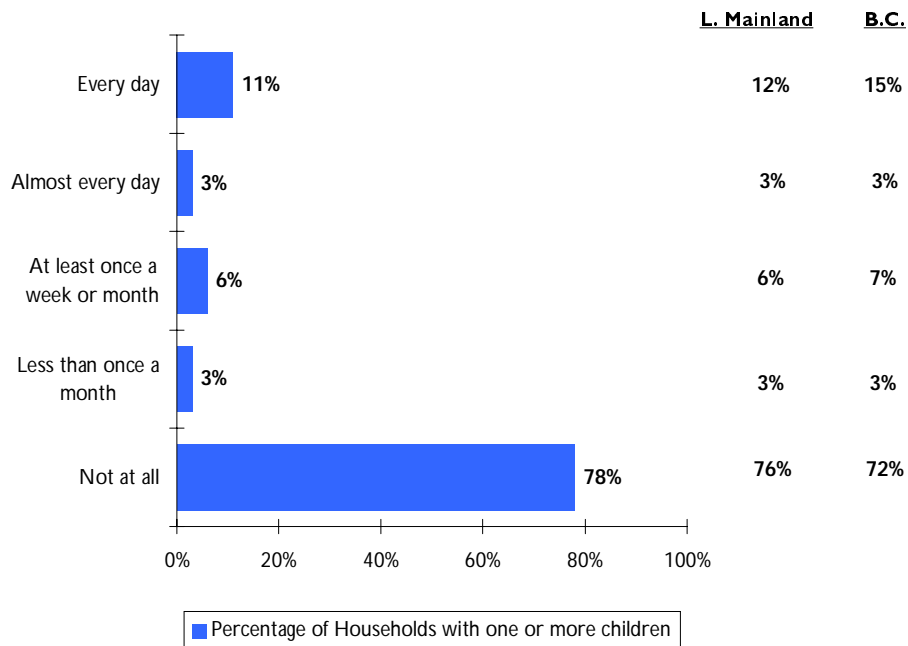


Average: South Fraser RHB = 14.9; Region = 14.2; B.C. = 14.3

†Interpret with caution, total base size less than 100

Households with Children: ETS exposure in South Fraser households with children age 11 and under are highlighted in the graph below. In 14% of these households there is daily or nearly daily exposure to ETS, and in 78% there is no ETS exposure at all. This latter percentage with children that are ETS free is similar to the Lower Mainland region (76%) but is higher than for the whole province (72%).

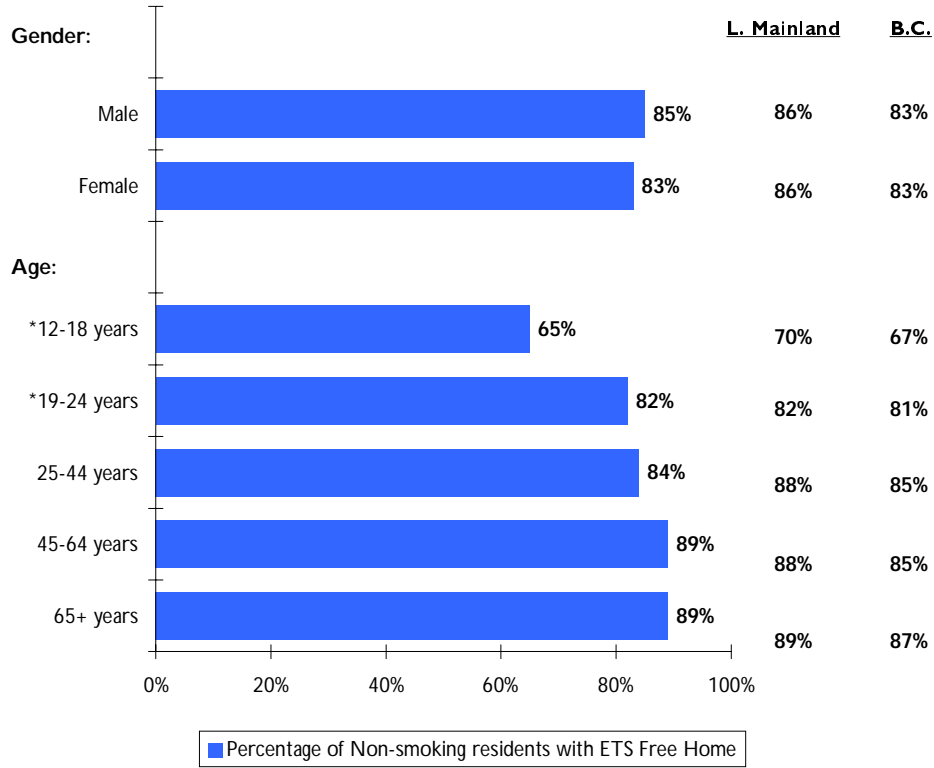
Frequency of Exposure to ETS in Homes with Children Aged 11 Years and Under, South Fraser RHB Residents, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997



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 20.3. Taking the very small sample size into account, this average seems consistent with that found for such households in the Lower Mainland region (17.9) and the province (18.2).

ETS Free Households Non-smoking residents of the South Fraser who live in households with no ETS exposure at all are equally likely to be male or female (85% vs. 83%), but as shown in the graph, this probability tends to vary depending on the age of the resident. For instance, just 65% of 12 to 18 year old non-smoking residents live in households with no ETS exposure at all, but this percentage rises to 89% among non-smokers age 45 years and over.

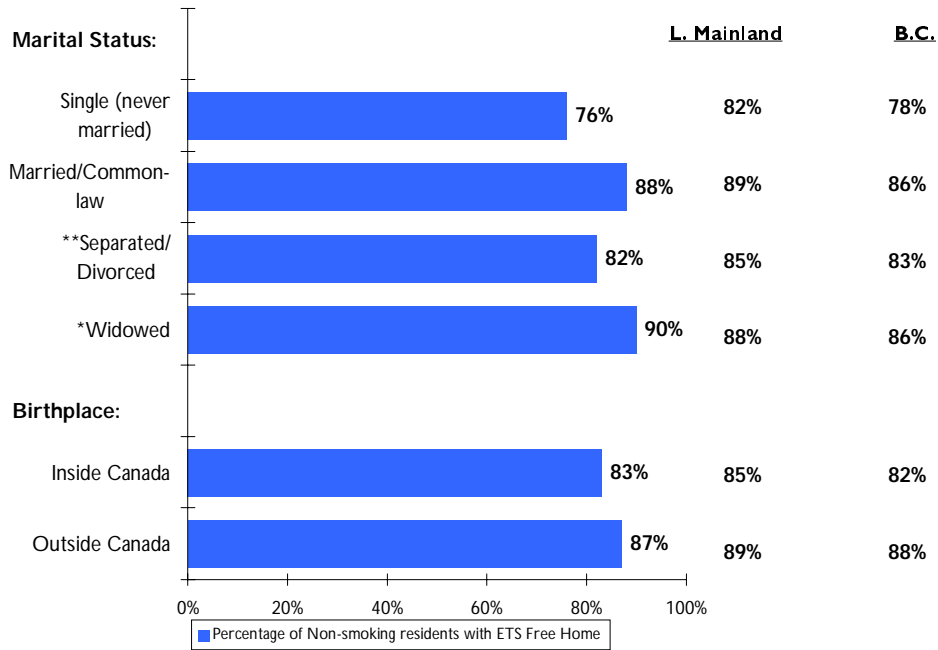
**Non-Smokers with ETS Free Households by Gender & Age,
South Fraser RHB Residents, Aged 12+, British Columbia,
1997**



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

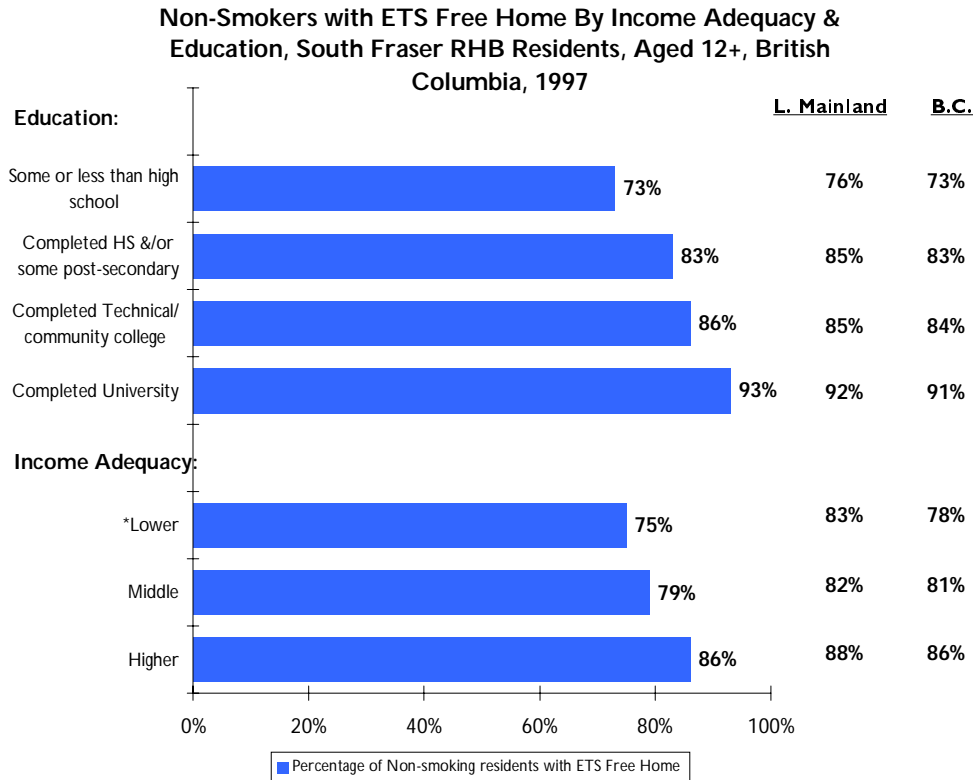
Non-smokers living in a household with no ETS exposure at all is slightly more likely among South Fraser residents who were born outside of Canada, in comparison to those born in Canada (87% vs. 83%). Similarly, as shown in the graph following, the probability of non-smoking residents of the South Fraser RHB living in an ETS free home also varies somewhat with marital status. Those residents who are single are least likely to have no ETS exposure at home (76%), while residents who are married (88%) or widowed (90%) are most likely to have no ETS exposure at home.

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

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. The higher the income adequacy, the more likely the non-smoking resident is living in an ETS free home. For example, only 75% of those with lower income adequacy have an ETS free home compared to 86% of those with higher income adequacy. A similar relationship exists with education, in that those with the lowest education level of some high school or less are the least likely to be in an ETS free home (73%) while those who are university graduates are most likely to live in an ETS free home (93%).

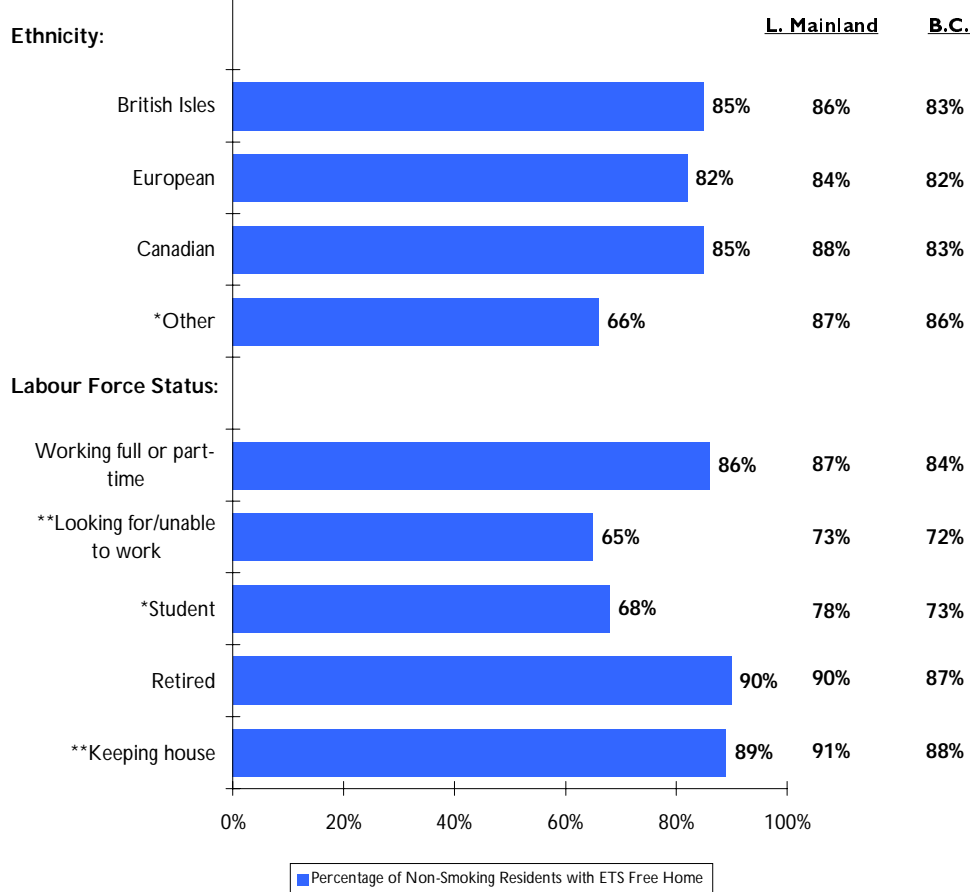


Non-smoking residents = those who do not currently smoke cigarettes, cigars or pipes

*Interpret with caution, subsample base size less than 100

The graph below displays the same relationship for the ethnicity and labour force status of South Fraser residents who do not smoke. For the most part, ethnic group membership does not appear to be strongly related to whether or not non-smoking residents live in a household with no ETS exposure at all with the exception of those with an ethnic background of "other" who are the least likely to be in an ETS free home (66%). 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 (68% and 65% respectively). Conversely, residents who are either presently employed, retired, or keep house are most likely to live in an ETS free household (86%, 90%, and 89%, respectively).

Non-Smokers with ETS Free Home by Ethnicity & Labour Force Status, South Fraser RHB Residents, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997



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

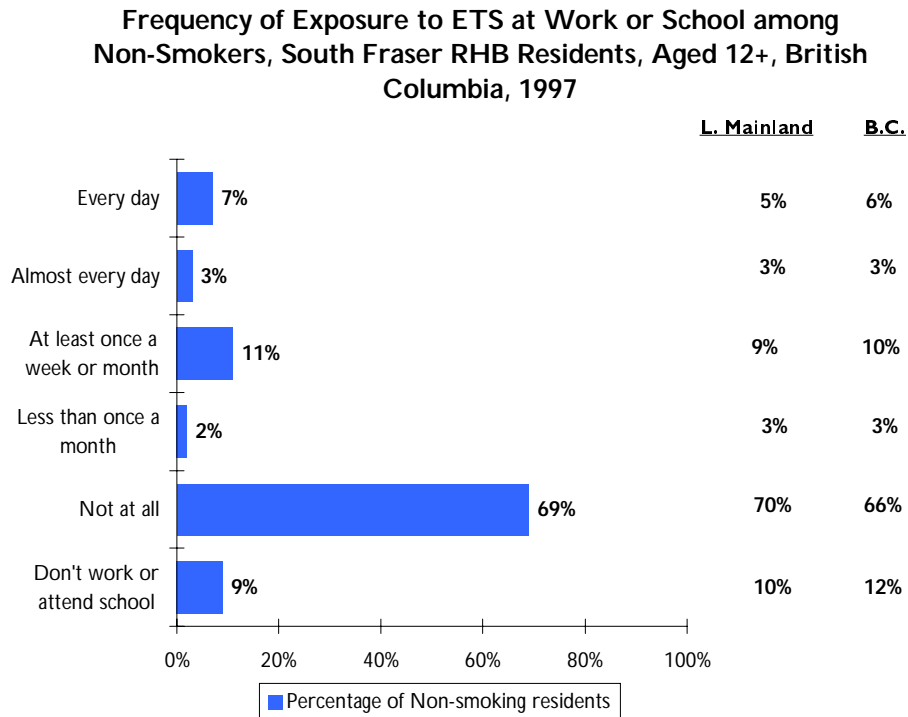
*Interpret with caution, subsample base size less than 100

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

8.7.4 Exposure to ETS at Work or School

Non-smokers in the South Fraser 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, 10% of non-smokers report exposure to ETS every day or nearly every day when at work or school, while 69% said they are not exposed to ETS at all. This latter percentage is quite similar to the survey findings for the entire Lower Mainland region (70%) and for the province (66%).



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 (77%). Age is also a factor, as non-smoking residents

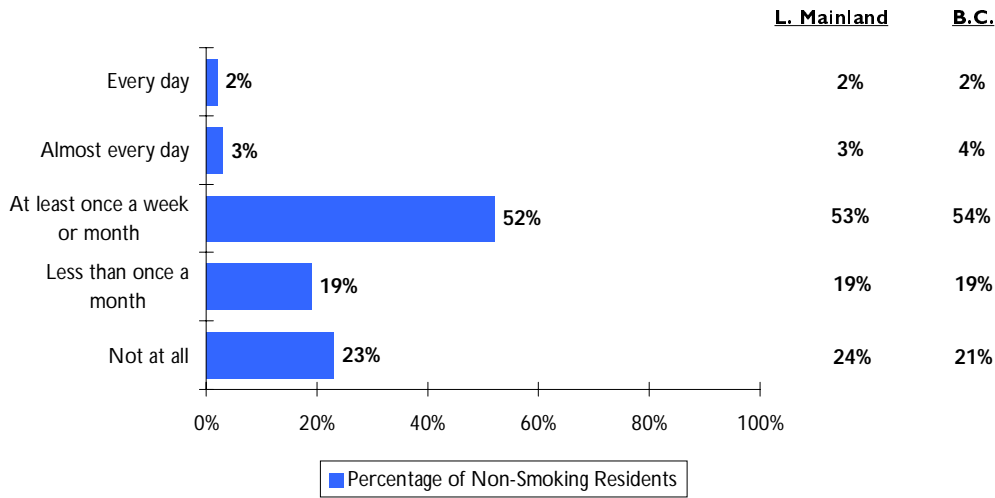
aged 12 to 18 have a generally lower level of exposure while at work or school (77% ETS free). By comparison, other demographic descriptors appear to be unrelated to whether or not the non-smoking residents of the South Fraser are exposed to ETS at work or school (data not shown).

8.7.5 Exposure to ETS in Other Indoor Settings

Finally, all non-smokers in the South Fraser 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 77% of the non-smoking residents in the South Fraser. Daily or nearly daily exposure in such settings was acknowledged by 5% of non-smoking residents. These percentages are very similar to the Lower Mainland region generally and for the province.

Frequency of Exposure to ETS in other Indoor Settings among Non-Smokers, South Fraser RHB Residents, Aged 12+, British Columbia, 1997

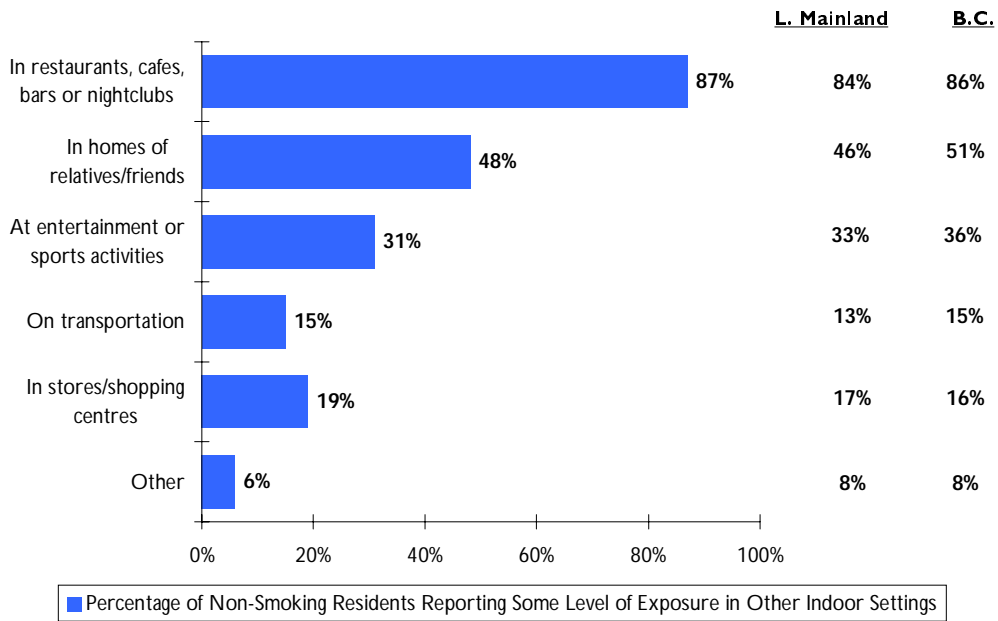


Non-smoking residents = those who do not currently smoke cigarettes, cigars or pipes.

The 77% of non-smoking residents of the South Fraser 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 (48%) and restaurants, cafes, bars or nightclubs (87%), than they do for transportation (15%) and stores or shopping centres (19%). Moreover, this general pattern of findings is also evident in the survey data for the entire Lower Mainland region and for the province.

**Exposure to ETS in Specific Indoor Settings among Non-Smokers,
South Fraser 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+).

	South Fraser RHB Sample	Lower Mainland Region Sample	British Columbia Sample
	%	%	%
Gender			
Male	50	49	49
Female	50	51	51
Age			
12-19	15	12	13
20-24	9	10	9
25-44	30	35	34
45-64	30	28	28
65+	16	16	17
Average	42.4	42.3	42.8
Marital Status			
Single	32	38	35
Married/Common Law	52	46	49
Separated/Divorced	8	9	8
Widowed	7	7	7
Children			
None	72	77	76
One	15	12	12
Two or more	13	11	12
Education			
Less than High School	5	4	6
Some High School	16	14	16
Completed High School	27	22	23
Some or Completed Technical/Community College	22	21	21
Some University	10	10	10
Completed University	14	18	15
Graduate Degree	6	10	8
Income Adequacy			
Low	3	5	5
Lower-Middle	9	9	10
Middle	23	23	26
Upper-Middle	40	39	38
High	25	24	21

	South Fraser RHB Sample	Lower Mainland Region Sample	British Columbia Sample
	%	%	%
Labour Force Status			
Working full-time	41	44	41
Working part-time	9	8	9
Self-Employed	10	9	9
Looking for work or unable to work	5	6	6
Student	10	11	10
Retired	19	18	20
Keeping house	5	4	4
Place of Birth			
In Canada	79	74	79
Outside Canada	21	26	21
Ethnicity			
British	46	43	47
European	38	37	38
South Asian	4	3	2
South East Asian	5	10	6
Canadian	14	12	13
Aboriginal	2	2	3

Demographically, the South Fraser differs from British Columbia on the following:

Children - the South Fraser has fewer homes with no children (72% vs. 76%) and more with one child or more (28% vs. 24%);

Income Adequacy - the South Fraser has more residents with an upper-middle or high income adequacy (65% vs. 59%); and,

Ethnicity - the South Fraser has more residents with a South Asian background than the province as a whole (4% vs. 2%).