

almost half (46.9%) of lifetime smokers had smoked in the past 12 months, and almost as many (43.2%) of lifetime smokers had smoked in the past 30 days.

On average, current (30-day) users smoked on more than 27 days out of the previous 30 days. On the days they were smoking, current smokers smoked, on average, 17.5 cigarettes per day.

The average age at first use of cigarettes was 15.6 years.

Smokeless Tobacco (Chewing Tobacco, Snuff, Plug, Dipping Tobacco):

One-quarter (24.9%) of adults had ever used smokeless tobacco, while 9% had used it in the previous 12 months. Current users (30-day) of smokeless tobacco represented fewer than 1 in 10 adults in Tennessee (7.5%). Thus, 36.2% of lifetime users had used smokeless tobacco in the past 12 months, and 30.2% of lifetime users had used smokeless tobacco in the past 30 days.

The average age at first use of smokeless tobacco was 17.5 years.

Alcoholic Beverages (Beer, Wine, Wine Coolers or Liquor):

More than 8 out of 10 (83.1%) adults in Tennessee had drunk alcohol (more than a few sips) at least once in their lifetimes, while more than half of them (51.1%) had drunk alcohol in the previous 12 months. Almost one-quarter (24.7%) of Tennessee adults had drunk alcoholic beverages in the past 30 days. Thus, almost two-thirds (61.5%) of lifetime drinkers had drunk alcohol in the past 12 months, while almost 30% (29.7%) of lifetime drinkers had drunk alcohol in the previous 30 days.

The average age for first use of alcohol for these drinkers was 17.7 years.

Current drinkers, on average, had drunk an alcoholic beverage on 8.5 days out of the previous 30 days while, on average, they had felt drunk or intoxicated one time (1.07) in the previous 30 days.

Prescription Drug Abuse:

Prescription drug abuse is defined as having taken any prescription drugs for non-medical purposes, on one's own, without a doctor's prescription. Five-and-one-half percent of adults report having abused prescription drugs at least once in their lifetimes. Close to 2% (1.6%) of adults had abused prescription drugs within the previous 12 months. Less than 1% (0.8%) of Tennessee adults were current or 30-day users. Of those who had ever abused prescription drugs, 28.7% had abused them within the past 12 months, and 14.7% had abused them within the past 30 days.

The average age of onset for prescription drug abuse was 19.6 years.