

Smoking and Vaping Behaviour of Canadians, Results from the Canadian Community Health Survey - Rapid Response 2020.

March 2022

This data sheet presents information from the Canadian Community Health Survey for 2003 to 2017-2018 and for 2020. Data was obtained from Public Use Micro files (prior to 2018) and through a custom tabulation prepared by Statistics Canada of data collected in the Rapid Response Module fielded in January to March 2020¹ and September to December 2020.² This module included some questions on vaping, as well as the established questions on smoking.

Because of changes imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, Statistics Canada has issued the following caution on the use of this data:

The COVID-19 pandemic had major impacts on the data collection operations for the Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS) 2020. The collection was stopped mid-March, towards the end of the first collection period, and did not resume until September. The second, third and fourth quarterly samples were collected during very short collection periods, each of about five weeks, from September to December. The impossibility of conducting in-person interviews, the shorter collection periods and collection capacity issues resulted in a significant decrease in the response rates. As for previous CCHS cycles, survey weights were adjusted to minimise any potential bias that could arise from survey non-response; non-response adjustments and calibration using available auxiliary information were applied and are reflected in the survey weights provided with the data file. Extensive validations of survey estimates were also performed and examined from a bias analysis perspective. Despite these rigorous adjustments and validations, the high non-response increases the risk of a remaining bias and the magnitude with which such a bias could impact estimates produced using the survey data. Therefore, users are advised to use the CCHS 2020 data with caution, especially when creating estimates for small sub-populations or when comparing to other CCHS years.

This caution should be kept in mind when interpreting the data presented below.

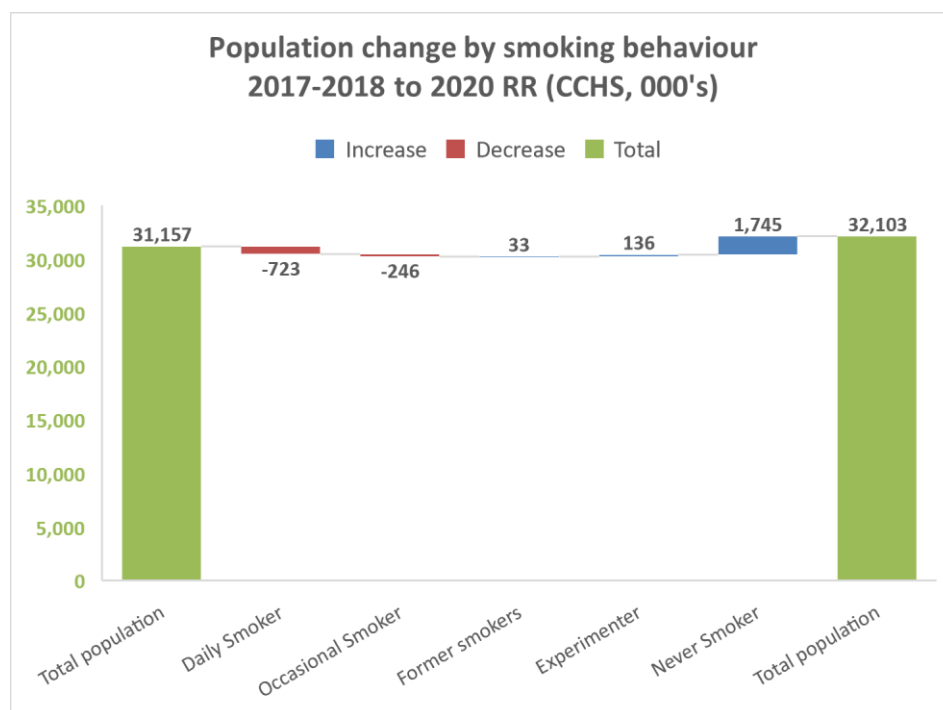
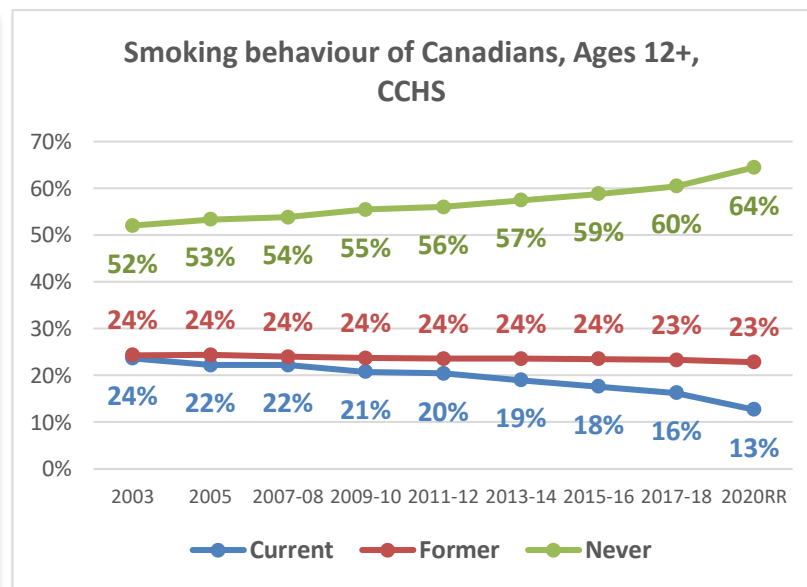
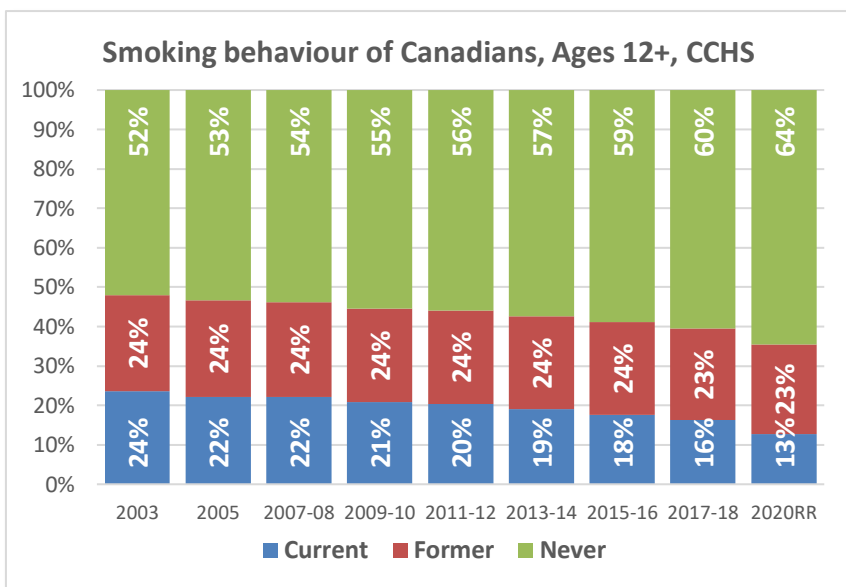


Table 1A: Smoking behaviour, 3 variables, Canadian Community Health Survey 2003 – 2020 RR



	2003	2005	2007_08	2009_10	2011_12	2013-14	2015-16	2017-18	2020RR
Total population	26,555,400	27,126,200	28,017,400	28,725,100	29,335,200	30,002,800	30,460,500	31,157,200	32,103,100
Current smoker	6,081,400	5,874,600	6,063,000	5,846,900	5,847,500	5,568,000	5,285,200	4,999,600	4,031,300
Former Smoker	6,932,000	6,984,000	7,129,700	7,144,800	7,271,000	7,414,600	7,531,000	7,574,100	7,607,000
Never Smoker	13,378,400	14,107,600	14,689,000	15,597,200	16,020,700	16,823,000	17,644,300	18,583,600	20,464,800
Total	26,391,800	26,966,200	27,881,700	28,588,900	29,139,200	29,805,600	30,460,500	31,157,300	32,103,100

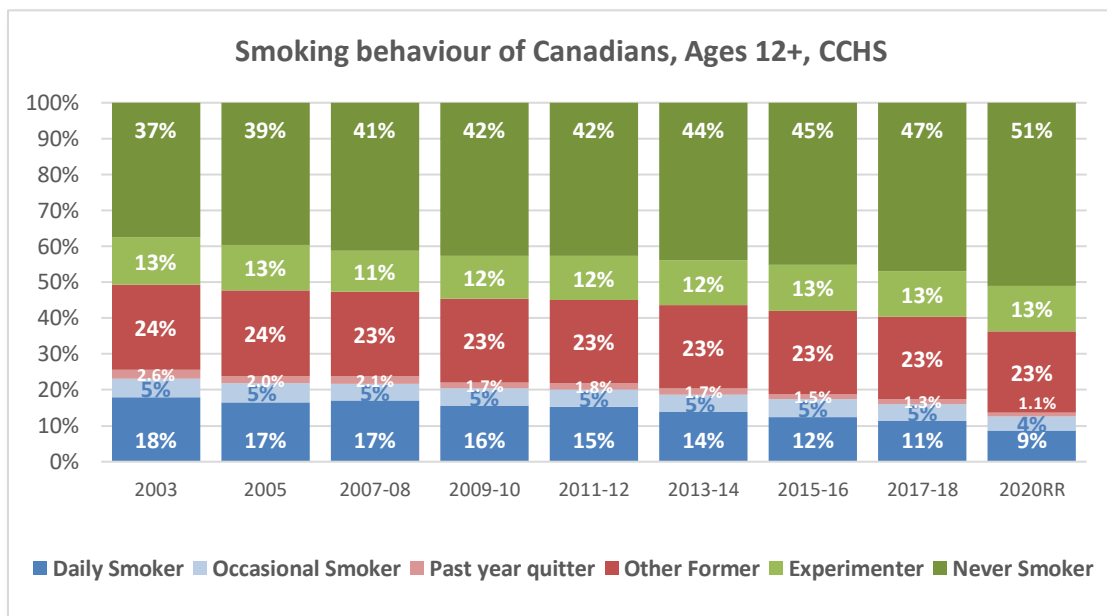
	2003	2005	2007_08	2009_10	2011_12	2013-14	2015-16	2017-18	2020RR
Current smoker	23%	22%	22%	20%	20%	19%	17%	16%	13%
Former Smoker	26%	26%	26%	25%	25%	25%	25%	24%	24%
Never Smoker	51%	52%	53%	55%	55%	56%	58%	60%	64%

Current smoker: smokes on a daily or occasional basis

Former smoker: has smoked more than 100 cigarettes in lifetime, but no longer smokes

Never Regular Smoker: Has never smoked a cigarette or has smoked fewer than 100 cigarettes in lifetime and no longer smokes

Table 1B: Smoking behaviour, 6 variables. Canadian Community Health Survey 2003-2020 RR



Daily Smoker: smokes on a daily basis
Occasional Smoker: smokes on an occasional basis
Past year quitter: has smoked more than 100 cigarettes in lifetime, but stopped doing so within the past year
Other Former Smoker: has smoked more than 100 cigarettes in lifetime, but stopped doing so more than a year ago
Experimenter: has smoked between 1 and 100 cigarettes, but does not currently smoke.
Abstainer: Has never smoked a cigarette

	2003	2005	2007_08	2009_10	2011_12	2013-14	2015-16	2017-18	2020RR
Total population	26,555,400	27,126,200	28,017,400	28,725,100	29,335,200	30,002,800	30,460,500	31,157,200	32,103,100
Daily Smoker	4,722,600	4,478,600	4,766,100	4,456,900	4,451,300	4,147,700	3,765,100	3,511,400	2,788,600
Occasional Smoker	1,358,800	1,396,000	1,296,900	1,390,000	1,396,200	1,420,300	1,520,100	1,488,200	1,242,700
Past year quitter	679,900	530,300	583,200	475,900	529,400	513,500	470,100	414,900	356,700
Other Former Smoker	6,252,100	6,453,800	6,546,500	6,669,000	6,741,594	6,901,166	7,060,900	7,159,200	7,250,300
Experimenter	3,472,100	3,426,300	3,206,200	3,415,700	3,571,700	3,723,900	3,905,600	3,962,500	4,098,300
Abstainer	9,906,300	10,681,300	11,482,800	12,181,500	12,449,000	13,099,100	13,738,700	14,621,100	16,366,500

	2003	2005	2007_08	2009_10	2011_12	2013-14	2015-16	2017-18	2020RR
Daily Smoker	18%	17%	17%	16%	15%	14%	12%	11%	9%
Occasional Smoker	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	4%
Past year quitter	2.6%	2.0%	2.1%	1.7%	1.8%	1.7%	1.5%	1.3%	1.1%
Other Former Smoker	24%	24%	23%	23%	23%	23%	23%	23%	23%
Experimenter	13%	13%	11%	12%	12%	12%	13%	13%	13%
Abstainer	37%	39%	41%	42%	42%	44%	45%	47%	51%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

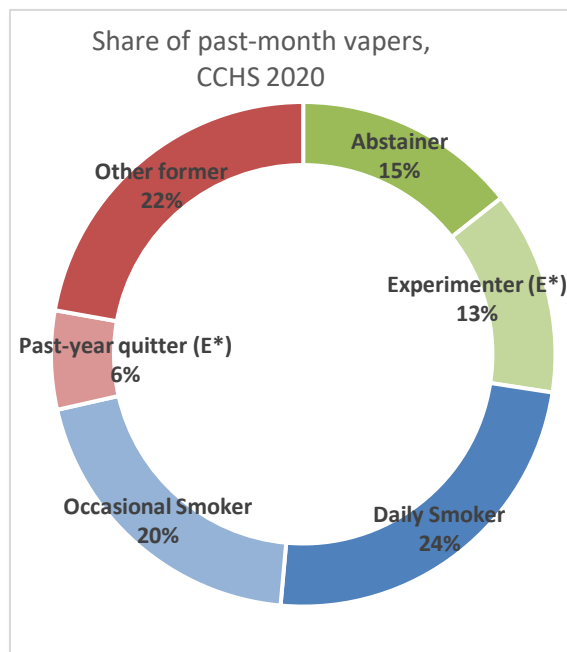
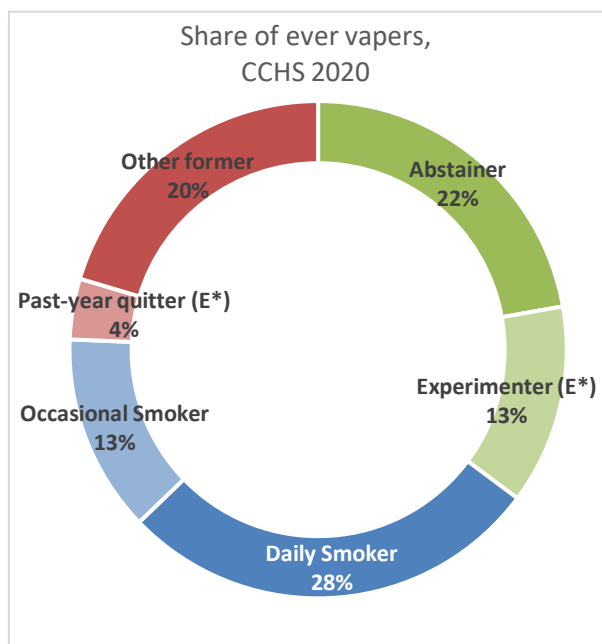


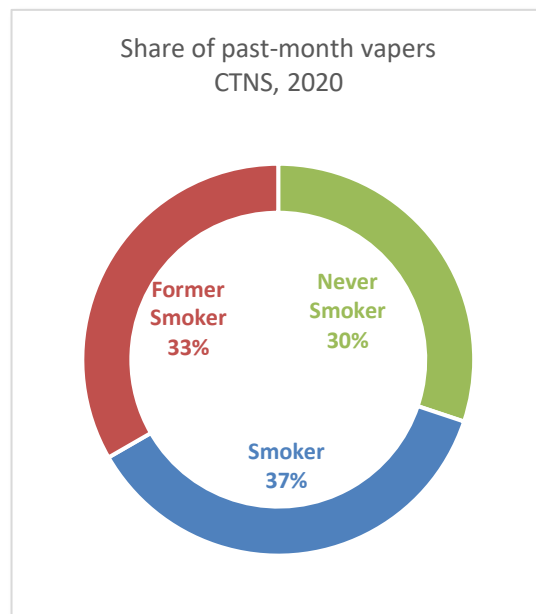
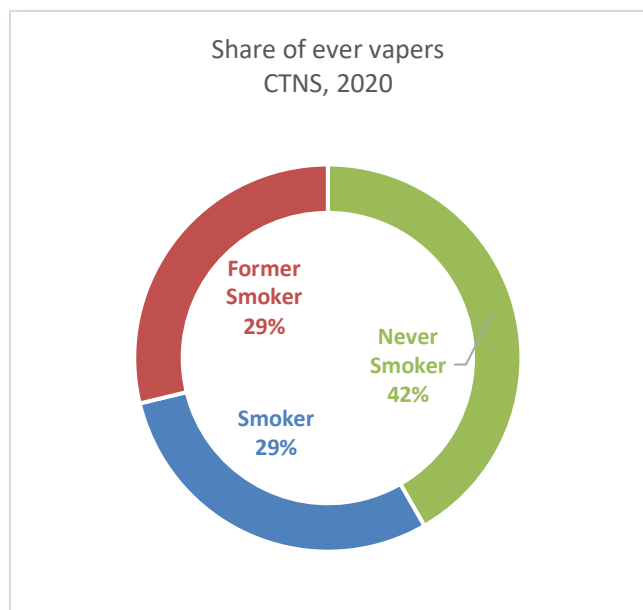
Table 2A: Vaping behaviour (distribution of population), CCHS 2020

Canadian Community Health Survey, 2020

	Past month use of vaping product			Ever tried vaping product			Daily use	
	Yes	No	Total	Yes	No	Total		
Abstainer	155,500	16,211,000	16,366,500	1,237,300	15,130,300	16,367,600	38,000	E
Experimenter	141,400	3,956,900	4,098,300	723,200	3,371,100	4,094,300	60,900	E
Daily smoker	259,900	2,528,700	2,788,600	1,537,100	1,251,800	2,788,900	103,900	E
Occasional smoker	216,900	1,025,800	1,242,700	717,100	524,300	1,241,400	143,400	E
Past-year quitter	68,500	288,200	356,700	220,000	136,700	356,700	69,700	E
Quit 1 to 3 years ago	137,600	649,200	786,800	402,900	383,900	786,800	128,800	E
Quit 4 or more years ago	102,800	6,360,700	6,463,500	732,800	5,726,600	6,459,400	108,400	
Quit more than 1 year ago	240,400	7,009,900	7,250,300	1,135,700	6,110,500	7,246,200	237,200	
Total	1,082,600	31,020,500	32,103,100	5,570,400	26,524,700	32,095,100	653,100	

	Past month use of vaping product			Ever tried vaping product			Daily use	
	Yes	No	Total	Yes	No	Total		
Abstainer	14%	52%	51%	22%	57%	51%	6%	E
Experimenter	13%	13%	13%	13%	13%	13%	9%	E
Daily smoker	24%	8%	9%	28%	5%	9%	16%	E
Occasional smoker	20%	3%	4%	13%	2%	4%	22%	E
Past-year quitter	6%	1%	1%	4%	1%	1%	11%	E
Quit 1 to 3 years ago	13%	2%	2%	7%	1%	2%	20%	E
Quit 4 or more years ago	9%	21%	20%	13%	22%	20%	17%	
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	

Table 2B: Vaping behaviour (distribution of population), CTNS 2020



Canadian Tobacco and Nicotine Survey, 2020

	Past month use of vaping product			Ever tried vaping product			Daily Use
	Yes	No	Total	Yes	No	Total	
Never Smoker	438,500	19,866,600	20,305,100	2,164,300	18,140,700	20 305 021	136,060
Smoker	532,400	2,694,700	3,227,100	1,533,600	1,693,500	3 227 100	184,860
Former Smoker	485,100	7,260,000	7,745,100	1,493,300	6,252,500	7 745 800	399,852
Total	1,456,000	29,821,300	31,277,100	5,191,200	26086800	31278000	721,000

	Past month use of vaping product			Ever tried vaping product			Daily use
	Yes	No	Total	Yes	No	Total	
Never Smoker	30%	67%	65%	42%	70%	65%	19%
Smoker	37%	9%	10%	30%	6%	10%	26%
Former Smoker	33%	24%	25%	29%	24%	25%	55%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

	Past month use of vaping product			Ever tried vaping product			Daily use
	Yes	No	Total	Yes	No	Total	
Never Smoker	2%	98%	100%	11%	89%	100%	1%
Smoker	16%	84%	100%	48%	52%	100%	6%
Former Smoker	6%	94%	100%	19%	81%	100%	5%
Total	5%	95%	100%	17%	83%	100%	2%

Table 3: Vaping behaviour (prevalence), CCHS

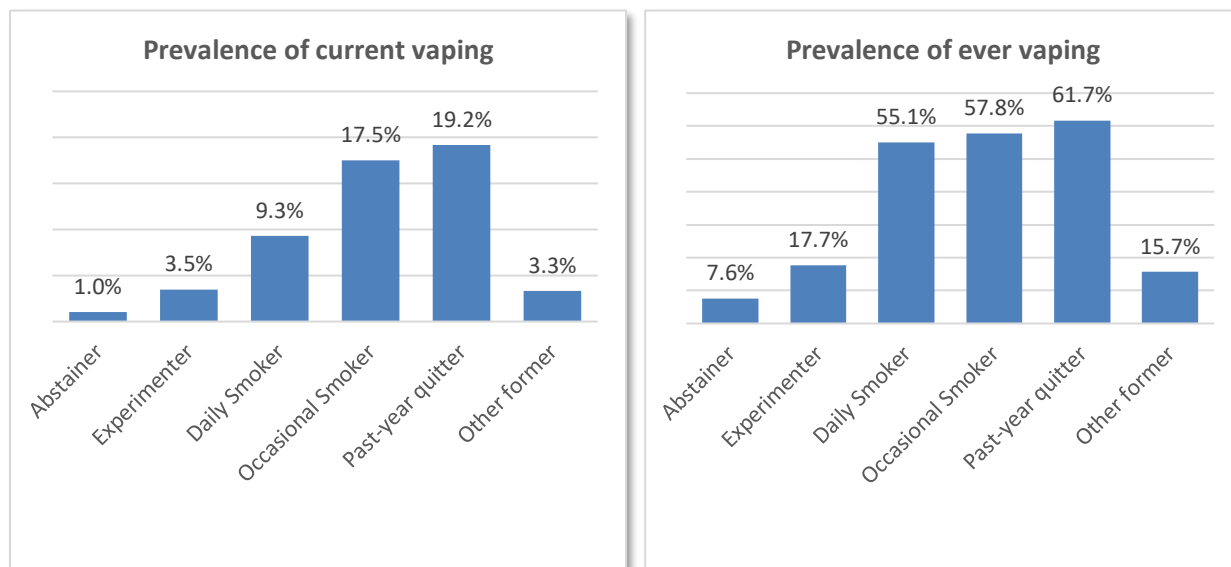
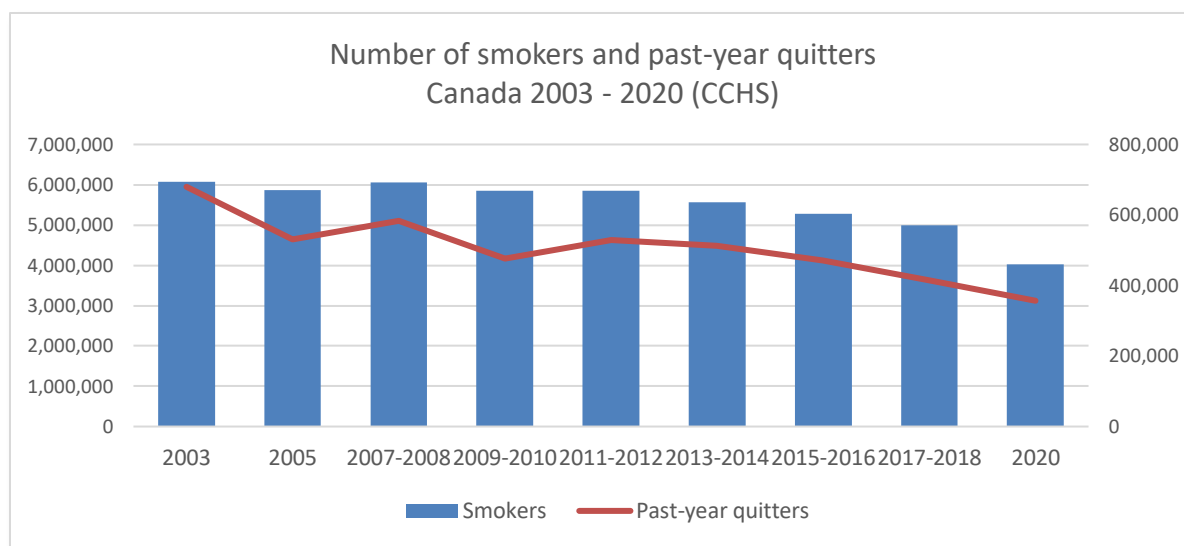


Table 3: Vaping behaviour (prevalence), CCHS 2020 Rapid Response

	Past month use of vaping product		Ever tried vaping product		Daily use vaping product	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Daily	
Lifetime abstainer (never smoked a whole cigarette)	1.0%	99%	7.6%	92%	0%	E
Experimental Smoker (at least 1 cigarette, non-smoker now)	3.5%	97%	17.7%	82%	1%	E
Never smokers (all)	1.5%	99%	9.6%	90%	0%	(E)
Current daily smoker	9.3%	91%	55.1%	45%	4%	E
Current occasional smokers	17.5%	83%	57.8%	42%	12%	E
Current smokers (all)	11.8%	88%	55.9%	44%	6%	(E)
Past-year quitter	19.2%	81%	61.7%	38%	20%	E
Quit 1 to 3 years ago	17.5%	83%	51.2%	49%	16%	E
Quit 4 or more years ago	1.6%	98%	11.3%	89%	2%	(E)
Quit more than 1 year ago	3.3%	97%	15.7%	84%	3%	
Former smokers (all)	4.1%	96%	17.8%	82%	4%	(E)
Total	3%	97%	17%	83%	2%	

E: Interpret with caution; (E) Aggregated data with COV quality not established, interpret with caution

Table 4: Cessation indicators, CCHS 2003 to 2020 RR



Proportion of past-year quitters to current smokers

	2003	2005	2007-2008	2009-2010	2011-2012	2013-2014	2015-2016	2017-2018	2020RR
Smokers	6,081,368	5,874,587	6,063,013	5,846,845	5,847,486	5,567,988	5,285,202	4,999,656	4,031,300
Past-year quitters	679,900	530,266	583,232	475,886	529,357	513,447	470,112	414,872	356,700
Percent	11%	9%	10%	8%	9%	9%	9%	8%	9%

Quit Ratio: (Former:Current Smokers)

	2003	2005	2007-2008	2009-2010	2011-2012	2013-2014	2015-2016	2017-2018	2020
Former	6,932,027	6,984,038	7,129,705	7,144,842	7,270,951	7,414,613	7,531,034	7,574,058	7,607,000
Current	6,081,368	5,874,587	6,063,013	5,846,845	5,847,486	5,567,988	5,285,202	4,999,656	4,031,300
Quit Ratio	1.14	1.19	1.18	1.22	1.24	1.33	1.42	1.51	1.89

Number of former smokers by years since quit

	2003	2005	2007-2008	2009-2010	2011-2012	2013-2014	2015-2016	2017-2018	2020
under 1 year	679,900	530,266	583,232	475,886	529,357	513,447	470,112	414,872	356,700
1 to 2 years	909,633	744,566	687,819	640,324	651,760	629,879	661,180	604,557	
3 to 5 years	687,399	804,915	689,035	656,047	608,719	634,142	651,279	698,019	
6 to 10 years	867,767	967,204	1,132,415	1,139,243	1,069,586	1,009,180	1,061,330	1,044,373	
11 years or more	3,723,559	3,877,538	3,971,653	4,159,093	4,330,821	4,544,154	4,600,527	4,685,894	
not stated	63,769	59,549	65,551	74,249	80,708	83,811	86,606	126,343	
1 to 3 years									786,800
4 or more years ago									6,463,500
Total	6,932,027	6,984,038	7,129,705	7,144,842	7,270,951	7,414,613	7,531,034	7,574,058	7,607,000

1 Statistics Canada. Canadian Community Health Survey: Rapid response, January to March 2020
<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/daily-quotidien/201201/dq201201g-eng.htm>

2 Statistics Canada. Canadian Community Health Survey: Rapid response, September to December 2020
<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/daily-quotidien/210513/dq210513c-eng.htm>

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