

While cigarettes are the dominant form of tobacco use in much of the world, oral use of smokeless tobacco (chewing or applying to the teeth or gums) and smoking of *bidis* are the dominant forms of tobacco consumption in India. While the 50th round of the National Sample Survey (NSSO, 1998) and NFHS-2 collected data on tobacco use from households, respondents who reported on tobacco use by all household members, NFHS-3 collected data on tobacco use directly by asking respondents to report on their own tobacco use. Four specific questions on current use of tobacco (smoke and non-smoke variants) were asked of all women and men who were interviewed with the Individual Questionnaire.

Table 13.7 Tobacco use by women and men

Percentage of women and men age 15-49 and men age 15-54 by their use of tobacco, and percent distribution of those who smoke cigarettes or *bidis*, by number of cigarettes/*bidis* smoked in the 24 hours preceding the survey, India, 2005-06

Tobacco use	Women			Men			
	Urban	Rural	Total 15-49	Urban	Rural	Total 15-49	Total 15-54
Use of tobacco							
Smokes cigarettes or <i>bidis</i>	0.5	1.8	1.4	28.7	35.0	32.7	33.4
Smokes cigars or pipe	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.8	0.6	0.7
Chews <i>paan masala, gutkha,</i> or other tobacco	5.5	9.8	8.4	31.1	39.6	36.5	36.3
Uses snuff	0.5	0.9	0.8	0.3	0.9	0.7	0.7
Other	0.3	0.9	0.7	0.3	1.3	0.9	1.0
Does not use tobacco	93.3	87.1	89.1	50.1	38.9	43.0	42.4
Number of respondents	40,817	83,568	124,385	25,504	44,247	69,751	74,369
Number of cigarettes/<i>bidis</i> smoked in the past 24 hours							
0	5.0	1.4	1.9	8.2	9.6	9.1	8.8
1-4	40.6	46.5	45.8	35.2	29.2	31.2	30.1
5-9	26.4	23.5	23.9	18.3	16.1	16.8	16.9
10 or more	24.0	25.8	25.6	38.1	45.0	42.8	44.0
Missing	3.9	2.7	2.8	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of cigarette/ <i>bidi</i> smokers	196	1,510	1,707	7,322	15,478	22,800	24,875

Tobacco use is much more prevalent among men than among women (Table 13.7). More than half of men use one or more forms of tobacco, compared with only 11 percent of women. One-third of men age 15-49 smoke cigarettes or *bidis*. *Paan masala, gutkha,* or other chewed tobaccos are consumed by 37 percent of men age 15-49. While only 1 percent of women age 15-49 smoke cigarettes or *bidis*, 8 percent chew *paan masala, gutkha,* or other tobacco products.

Tobacco use is more prevalent in rural areas than in urban areas among both men and women. Thirty-five percent of rural men age 15-49 smoke cigarettes or *bidis*, compared with 29 percent of urban men. About four in every 10 rural men age 15-49 chew tobacco, while three in every 10 urban men do so. Rural women are also more likely than urban women to smoke or chew tobacco. Two percent of rural women smoke cigarettes or *bidis*, while less than 1 percent of urban women smoke. Ten percent of rural women and 6 percent of urban women chew tobacco. Figure 13.2 illustrates overall levels of tobacco use by rural-urban residence.

Table 13.10 Use of tobacco and alcohol by state

Percentage of women and men age 15-49 who use any kind of tobacco, who smoke cigarettes or bidis, and who drink alcohol by state, India, 2005-06

State	Women			Men		
	Who use any kind of tobacco	Who smoke cigarettes/ <i>bidis</i>	Who drink alcohol	Who use any kind of tobacco	Who smoke cigarettes/ <i>bidis</i>	Who drink alcohol
India	10.8	1.4	2.2	57.0	32.7	31.9
North						
Delhi	3.1	1.4	0.4	40.0	26.5	33.1
Haryana	3.3	2.6	0.1	46.3	39.8	27.7
Himachal Pradesh	1.2	1.1	0.1	40.0	33.6	29.5
Jammu & Kashmir	5.3	0.7	0.0	52.7	40.2	12.5
Punjab	0.8	0.5	0.2	33.8	20.9	43.4
Rajasthan	7.8	3.3	0.2	60.4	41.8	19.1
Uttaranchal	5.4	2.7	0.2	53.3	36.3	39.1
Central						
Chhattisgarh	25.2	0.2	11.4	68.6	31.8	52.3
Madhya Pradesh	16.0	0.5	2.1	68.5	40.2	30.8
Uttar Pradesh	12.1	2.4	0.3	64.3	35.5	25.3
East						
Bihar	8.0	4.9	1.0	66.5	29.0	34.9
Jharkhand	11.6	0.6	9.9	61.7	19.4	38.9
Orissa	31.4	0.3	7.3	68.8	27.1	39.6
West Bengal	15.6	1.3	1.7	70.2	50.1	34.0
Northeast						
Arunachal Pradesh	27.2	3.1	33.6	62.6	31.4	61.1
Assam	23.2	0.6	7.5	72.4	36.4	37.8
Manipur	39.6	4.3	1.8	69.5	37.9	47.4
Meghalaya	31.9	1.9	3.8	69.2	60.0	49.2
Mizoram	60.8	16.1	0.7	83.4	73.6	42.0
Nagaland	28.1	0.3	3.5	67.9	39.3	38.5
Sikkim	18.7	5.4	19.1	61.8	33.3	45.4
Tripura	48.2	7.9	9.6	76.0	56.7	40.9
West						
Goa	4.4	0.2	2.1	27.8	13.6	40.0
Gujarat	8.4	0.6	0.8	60.2	26.1	16.0
Maharashtra	10.5	0.1	0.4	48.2	17.7	24.0
South						
Andhra Pradesh	5.2	0.5	6.8	42.8	32.5	47.2
Karnataka	4.8	0.1	1.2	44.7	27.9	28.3
Kerala	1.8	0.1	0.7	43.5	35.8	45.2
Tamil Nadu	2.8	0.0	0.1	40.1	31.2	41.5

to the northeastern states, use of tobacco is also high (60 percent or higher) among men in all states in the East and Central Regions, Gujarat in the West, and Rajasthan in the North. Less than one-quarter of men smoke cigarettes/*bidis* in only four states (Goa, Maharashtra, Jharkhand, and Punjab). Fifty percent or more of men smoke cigarettes/*bidis* in West Bengal, Tripura, Meghalaya, and Mizoram.

The reported high prevalence of tobacco use in Northeast Region is consistent with other survey findings such as the Global School Personnel Survey in NE India, 2001 (Sinha et al., 2003) and the National Household Survey of Drug and Alcohol Abuse, 2002 (Srivastava et al., 2004).

A substantial number of men reported drinking alcohol despite official prohibition in Manipur (47 percent) and Mizoram (42 percent). In only four states do less than one-quarter of men consume alcohol: Jammu and Kashmir (13 percent), Gujarat (16 percent, also under