

## Health Fact Sheets

# Exposure to second-hand smoke at home, 2013



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- . not available for any reference period
- .. not available for a specific reference period
- ... not applicable
- 0 true zero or a value rounded to zero
- 0<sup>s</sup> value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded
- <sup>P</sup> preliminary
- <sup>r</sup> revised
- X suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the *Statistics Act*
- <sup>E</sup> use with caution
- F too unreliable to be published
- \* significantly different from reference category ( $p < 0.05$ )

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# Exposure to second-hand smoke at home, 2013

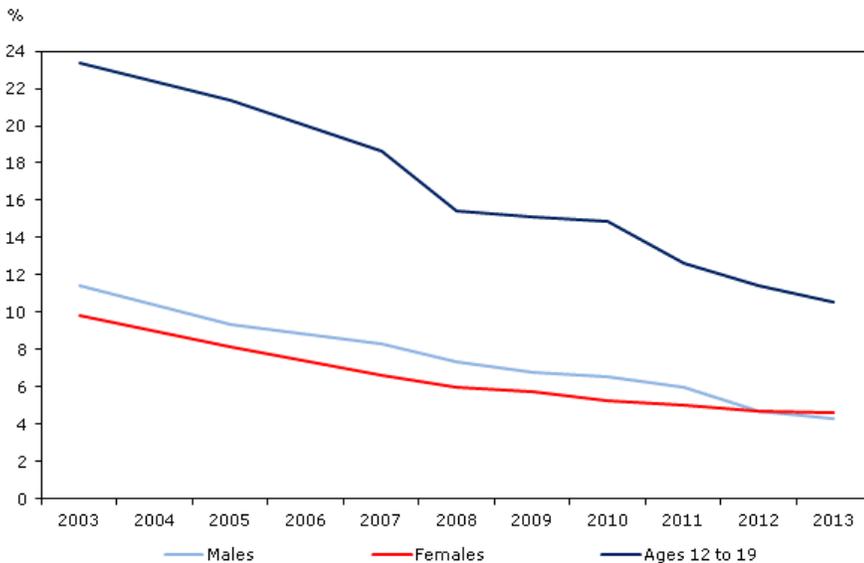
'Passive smoking,' or exposure to second-hand smoke, has negative respiratory health effects. Two of the most common diseases associated with breathing in second-hand smoke are lung cancer in adults and asthma among children.



The proportion of non-smokers aged 12 and older who were regularly exposed to second-hand smoke at home was 4.5% in 2013, around the same as 2012. This rate has declined significantly since 2003 when it was 10.6%. The rate of exposure to second hand smoke at home was the same for both males and females in 2013 (Chart 1).

In 2013, 10.5% of young Canadians aged 12 to 19 were exposed to second-hand smoke at home—a decrease from 23.4% in 2003 (Chart 1). This age group is the most likely to be exposed to second hand smoke at home. Of the 1.1 million non-smoking Canadians aged 12+ who were regularly exposed to second-hand smoke at home, the 12 to 19 age group made up 28.3%.

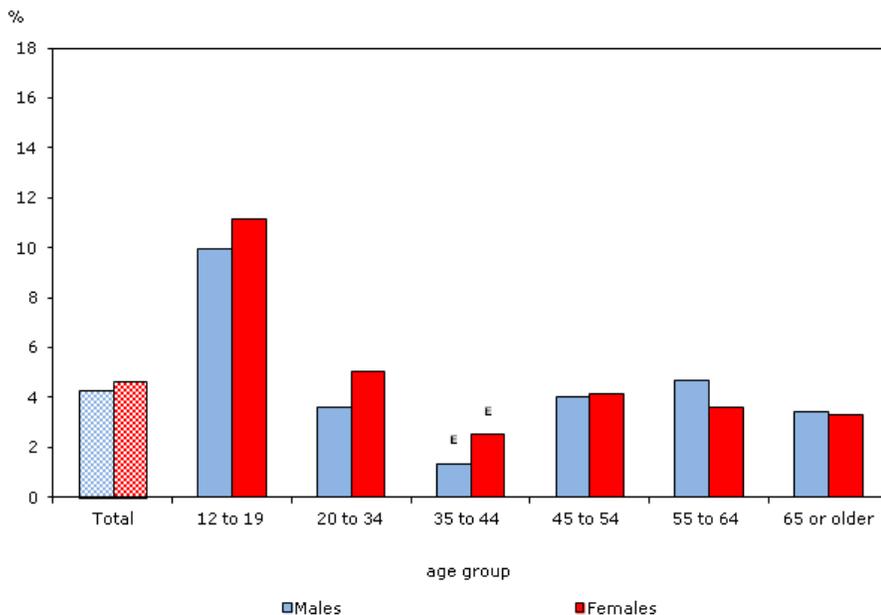
**Chart 1**  
**Percentage of non-smokers regularly exposed to second-hand smoke at home, by sex and selected age group, household population aged 12 or older, Canada, 2003 to 2013**



Source: Canadian Community Health Survey, 2003, 2005, 2007 - 2013.

Females aged 20 to 34 were significantly more likely than males to be exposed to second-hand smoke at home<sup>1</sup>; however, there was no significant difference between the sexes in other age groups (Chart 2).

**Chart 2**  
**Percentage of non-smokers regularly exposed to second hand smoke at home, by age group and sex, household population aged 12 or older, Canada, 2013**



**Note:** E use with caution (coefficient of variation 16.6% to 33.3%).

**Source:** Canadian Community Health Survey, 2013.

The proportion of residents who reported exposure to second-hand smoke at home was **lower than** the national average (4.5%) in:

- Ontario (3.9%)
- British Columbia (2.2%)

The proportion of residents who reported exposure to second-hand smoke at home was **higher than** the national average in:

- Nova Scotia (8.1%)
- Quebec (6.7%)

Residents of the other provinces<sup>2</sup> and territories<sup>2</sup> had rates that were about the same as the national average.

## End notes

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- <sup>1</sup> Note that males and females in the 35 to 44 age group had coefficients of variation between 16.6% and 33.3%; interpret with caution.
- <sup>2</sup> Note that the rates for Prince Edward Island, Yukon, Northwest Territories, and Nunavut had coefficients of variation between 16.6% and 33.3%; interpret with caution.
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## References

Shields, Margot. 2007. " Smoking—prevalence, bans and exposure to second-hand smoke." *Health Reports*, 18(3): 67–85. <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/82-003-x/2006007/article/smoking-fumer/10198-eng.pdf> (accessed June 3, 2010)

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<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/studies-etudes/82-003/archive/2004/7037-eng.pdf> (accessed June 3, 2010)

Bearer C. 1995. “Environmental health hazards: how children are different from adults.” *The Future of Children: Critical Issues for Children and Youths*. Vol. 5. no. 2. pp11-26. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/1602354> (accessed May 15, 2013).

## **Data**

Additional data from the Canadian Community Health Survey are available from CANSIM table 105-0501.