

## COUNTRY REPORT MEXICO MAY 2018

Data on Mexico (in Spanish) can be found in the National Poll on Consumption of Drugs Alcohol and Tobacco (Encuesta Nacional de Consumo de Drogas, Alcohol y Tabaco, ENCODAT 2016-2017). It is official government data and is publicly available. Data on e-cigarette usage is found in the tobacco section and a pdf version can be downloaded in this link

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Iktptvdu2nsrSpMBMT4FdqBlk8gikz7q/view>

### Important figures:

- 975 thousand Mexicans are “current users” of e-cigs, about 810 thousand adults (18-65 years old) and 160 thousand teenagers 12-17 years old. In both age categories the prevalence is 1.1% of the total age group population.
- Trial of e-cigs: 5 million people, of which 938 thousand are teenagers. Prevalence are 5.9% (adults) and 6.5% (teens) of the total population.
- In the official processed data “actual usage” does not distinguish between “vaping some days” and “vaping every day”. To find the numbers you have to go to the excel file with the raw polling data (about 59 thousand people were polled).
- **Very few vapers vape daily** The raw polling data shows Mexican vapers to be overwhelmingly occasional vapers. Only 3 (YES, THREE) of the 12,436 polled teenagers vape daily (about 2 for every 10 thousand). Of the 619 polled teens who tried e-cigs, only 147 reported “actual usage”. This means that 98% vape occasionally (144 kids) and 2% daily (the 3 ones). Similar percentages are found among polled adults.

## More detail

National smoking and vaping prevalence figures appear in page 49-50 of the downloaded pdf. I translate below:

## Smoking

- In Mexico 17.6% of the population (12 to 65 years old) actually smokes tobacco. This corresponds to 14.9 million Mexicans, among which 8.7% (3 million 812 thousand) are women and 27.1% (11 million 78 thousand) are men. Of the total of actual smokers 6.4% smokes daily and 11.1% smokes occasionally.
- Mexican smokers smoke on average 7.4 daily cigarettes (women 6.4, men 7.7)
- **Comparison with 2011.** Pages 65-66. Between 2011 and 2016 daily smoking prevalence (12-65 years old) did not change significantly (from 7.0% to 6.4%), the same in women (3.5 to 3.1%) and men (10.7% to 10.0%). Also in teenagers (6.5% to 4.9%). If occasional smokers are included then the change from 2011 to 2017 was a slight increase 17.0% to 17.6%. As opposed to the USA or the UK, there is no “unprecedented drop” in smoking prevalence in teenagers.

## Vaping

- 5.9% of the population (12-65 years old) reported having tried at least once an e-cigarette (5.02 million) and 1.1% actually uses e-cigs (975 thousand). Prevalence of actual consumption is less among women (0.7%) than men (1.6%).

## Teenagers (12 to 17 years old, page 54)

### Smoking

- 4.9% actually smokes (684 thousand), among which 3.0 (210 thousand) are women and 6.7% (474 thousand) are men. Of the total, only 0.5% smokes daily (74 thousand) and 4.4% occasionally (611 thousand)
- Teenagers smoke on average 5.8 daily cigarettes

### Vaping

- 6.5% of the population in the range 12-17 years old reported having tried at least once an e-cigarette (938 thousand) and 1.1% actually uses e-cigs (160 thousand). Prevalence of actual consumption is less among women (0.6%) than men (1.6%).

**Comments:** Notice that smoking prevalence and usage figures for Mexico are lower than the European Union average. Occasional smokers make the majority of total smokers and daily smokers smoke less than 10 cigarettes. Prevalence of vaping is very similar among the total population and among teenagers. The poll explicitly distinguishes daily and occasional smokers but vaping data does not (you have to look at raw polling data to know).

Age differentiated for vaping. Teenagers in 3 age groups: 12, 13-15, 16-17 years old (page 338)

#### Tried e-cigs

12: 1.1% [0.7-1.8%]

13-15: 5.6% [4.6-6.9%]

16-17: 10.7% [9.0-12.7%]

#### Actual consumption

12: 0.1% [0.0-0.4%]

13-15: 1.2% [0.8-1.8%]

16-17: 1.5% [1.0-2.1%]

Adults, three age groups 18-24, 24-44, 45-65 years old (page 365)

18-24 years old

Tried e-cigs: 13.4 [12.1-14.8]

Actual usage: 2.7 [2.2-3.3]

24-44

Tried e-cigs: 4.6 [4.3-5.4]

Actual usage: 1.0 [0.8-1.2]

45-65

Tried e-cigs: 2.1 [1.6-2.6]

Actual usage: 0.4 [0.2-0.6]

**Comment:** Vaping prevalence in the 18-24 years old age category is very similar to that of 16-17 years old teenagers. Vaping is more popular in the age groups 16-24 years old and in urban sites (it is very low in rural areas). Regionally, prevalence is much higher in rich industrialised states (North and West-Central Mexico, including Mexico City and its metropolitan area).

Thank you very much to:

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