

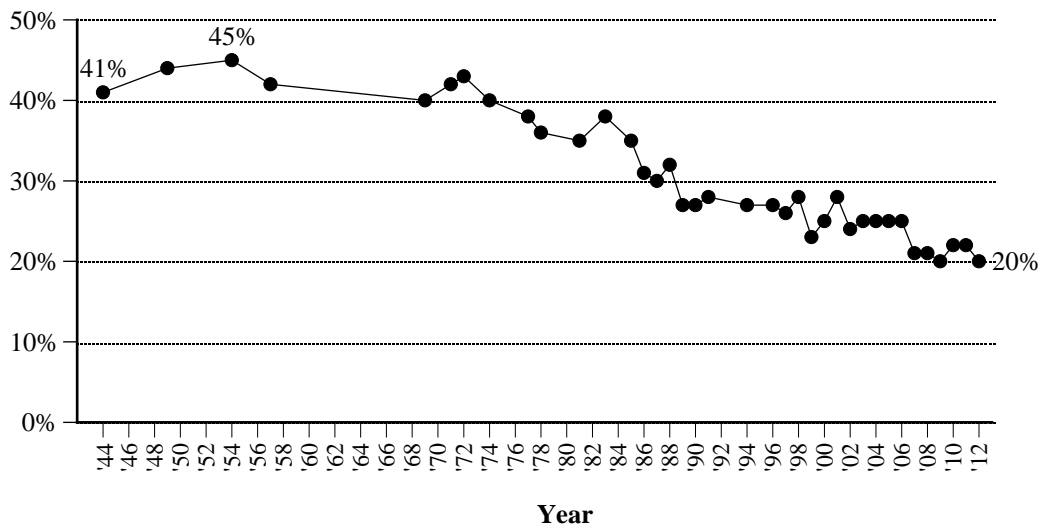
A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland, College Park

Weekly Cigarette Smoking Among U.S. Adults at All Time Low; Largest Decrease Among Adults Ages 18 to 29

Cigarette smoking among adults in the United States continues to remain at record low levels, according to the results of a national Gallup poll of adults conducted in July 2012. After peaking at 45% in 1954, the percentage of adults reporting smoking in the past week gradually declined, reaching 21% in 2007. Between 2007 and 2012 the percentage did not change, remaining within the poll's error rate of 4 percentage points. The largest overall decline in weekly smoking occurred among adults ages 18 to 29, dropping 26% between 2001 and 2012* (data not shown). According to the authors, "this may reflect a decline in smoking among teens and other minors—the ages at which a lifetime of smoking often starts—and . . . increases the likelihood that smoking rates will continue to fall in the years ahead."

**Percentage of U.S. Adult Household Residents Reporting
Smoking Cigarettes in the Past Week, 1944 to 2012**



*Combined data from multiple years were used in analyzing demographic subgroups. In 2001-2005, 34% of adults ages 18 to 29 reported smoking in the past week, compared to 25% in 2011-2012.

NOTES: Data for 2012 are from national telephone (land-line and cellular) interviews with a random sample of 1,014 adults ages 18 and older conducted July 9-12, 2012. The margin of error is 4 percentage points for the total sample. If more than one poll was conducted in a year, the poll that occurred closest to the month of July was used in the above graph. Surveys were only conducted in years that have a data point marker.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from Gallup, One in Five U.S. Adults Smoke, Tied for All-Time Low, August 2012 (available online at <http://www.gallup.com/poll/156833/one-five-adults-smoke-tied-time-low.aspx>).

CESAR Wishes You a Very Happy Holiday Season!

This is the final issue of the *CESAR FAX* for 2012. The *CESAR FAX* will resume with Volume 22, Issue 1 on January 7th, 2013. Thank you for your support during the past year!