



General Household Survey 2007

Smoking and drinking among adults, 2007

Simon Robinson

Deborah Lader

© Crown copyright

Office for National Statistics

Government Buildings

Cardiff Rd

Newport

NP10 8XG

Tel: 01633 45 5740

email: ghs@ons.gsi.gov.uk

Contents

- Introduction 3**
- An overview of the General Household Survey3
- Other GHS results for 20074

- 1 Smoking 5**
- The reliability of smoking estimates5
- The effect of weighting on the smoking data5
- Government policy and targets for the reduction of smoking.....5
- The prevalence of cigarette smoking.....6
- Trends in the prevalence of cigarette smoking6
- Cigarette smoking and marital status 8
- Cigarette smoking and socio-economic classification 8
- Cigarette smoking and economic activity status.....10
- Regional variation in cigarette smoking10
- Cigarette consumption10
- Cigarette type 11
- Tar yield.....12
- Cigar and pipe smoking.....13
- Age started smoking.....14
- Dependence on cigarette smoking15

- 2 Drinking 41**
- Measuring alcohol consumption..... 41
- Frequency of drinking during the last week 43
- Maximum daily amount drunk last week 43
- Drinking last week and socio-economic characteristics 44
- Drinking last week and household income45
- Drinking last week, economic activity status and earnings from employment.....45
- Regional variation in drinking last week 46

Introduction

This report provides information about smoking and drinking based on data collected by the General Household Survey in 2007. It also includes tables showing data on the trends and changes in smoking and drinking measured by the GHS over several decades.

An overview of the General Household Survey

The General Household Survey (GHS) is a multi-purpose continuous survey carried out by the Office for National Statistics (ONS). It collects information on a range of topics from people living in private households in Great Britain. The survey started in 1971 and has been carried out continuously since then, except for breaks to review it in 1997/1998 and to re-develop it in 1999/2000.

The survey presents a picture of households, families and people living in Great Britain. This information is used by government departments and other organisations, such as educational establishments, businesses and charities, to contribute to policy decisions and for planning and monitoring purposes.

The interview consists of questions relating to the household, answered by the household reference person or spouse, and an individual questionnaire, asked of all resident adults aged 16 and over. Demographic and health information is also collected about children in the household. The GHS collects data on a wide range of core topics which are included on the survey every year. These are:

- demographic information about households, families and people
- housing tenure and household accommodation
- access to and ownership of consumer durables, including vehicles
- migration
- employment
- education
- health and use of health services
- smoking
- drinking
- family information, including marriage, cohabitation and fertility
- income

The 2007 GHS was sponsored by the Office for National Statistics, the NHS Information Centre for health and social care, Department for Work and Pensions, HM Revenue & Customs, Scottish Government and Eurostat.

The GHS was conducted on a financial year basis between 1994 and 2005, with fieldwork spread evenly across the year from April to March. Since 2005 the survey has been conducted over the calendar year with fieldwork spread evenly from January to December.

Another change in 2005 was that, in line with European requirements, the GHS adopted a longitudinal sample design, in which households remain in the sample for four years (waves) with one quarter of the sample being replaced each year. Thus approximately three quarters of the 2006 sample were re-interviewed in 2007. More details are given in Appendix B.

A major advantage of the longitudinal component of the design is that it is more efficient at detecting statistically significant estimates of change over time than the previous cross-sectional design. This is because an individual's responses to the same question at different points in time tend to be positively correlated and this reduces the standard errors of estimates of change.

The response rate for the 2007 survey was 75 per cent, giving an achieved sample size of 9,080 households and 17,123 adults aged 16 and over, of whom 15,687 gave a full interview in person (interviews obtained by proxy from another member of the household do not include questions on smoking and drinking).

Other GHS results for 2007

Results for other GHS topics will be combined with those from other sources in *Social Trends* and other reports due to be published in 2009. Tables from all GHS topic areas are published on the National Statistics website:

www.statistics.gov.uk/ghs. Technical information about the GHS in the form of appendices is also available at www.statistics.gov.uk/ghs, including:

- a glossary of definitions and terms used throughout the report and notes on how these have changed over time (Appendix A)
- information about the sample design and response (Appendix B)
- sampling errors (Appendix C)
- weighting and grossing (Appendix D)
- the household and individual questionnaires used in 2007, excluding self-completion forms and prompt cards (Appendix E)
- a list of the main topics covered by the survey since 1971 (Appendix F)

1 Smoking

GHS respondents aged 16 and over have been asked questions about smoking behaviour in alternate years since 1974. Following the review of the GHS carried out in 1997, the smoking questions became part of the continuous survey and have been included every year from 2000 onwards. Note, however, that the tables in this report show data for every four years from 1974 to 1998.

This report updates information about trends in cigarette smoking presented in earlier GHS reports and on the National Statistics website. It also discusses variations according to personal characteristics such as sex, age, socio-economic classification and economic activity status, and comments briefly on the prevalence of cigarette smoking in different parts of Great Britain. Smoking prevalence in relation to ethnicity is not included in this report; the 2005 report¹ covered this topic in some detail, based on five years combined data, to give large enough samples for analysis in minority ethnic groups. Other topics covered in 2007 include cigarette consumption, type of cigarette smoked, how old respondents were when they started smoking, and dependence on cigarettes.

The reliability of smoking estimates

As noted in earlier GHS reports, it is likely that the GHS underestimates cigarette consumption and, perhaps to a lesser extent, prevalence (the proportion of people who smoke). For example, evidence suggests (Kozlowski, 1986²) that when respondents are asked how many cigarettes they smoke each day, there is a tendency to round the figure down to the nearest multiple of 10. Underestimates of consumption are likely to occur in all age groups.

Under-reporting of prevalence, however, is most likely to occur among young people. To protect their privacy, particularly when they are being interviewed in their parents' home, young people aged 16 and 17 complete the smoking and drinking sections of the questionnaire themselves, so that neither the questions nor their responses are heard by anyone else who may be present. This is probably only partially successful in encouraging honest answers³.

When considering trends in smoking, it is usually assumed that any under-reporting remains constant over time. However, since the prevalence of smoking has fallen, this assumption may not be entirely justified. As smoking has become less acceptable as a social habit, some people may have become less inclined to admit how much they smoke – or, indeed, to admit to smoking at all.

The effect of weighting on the smoking data

Weighting to compensate for non-response was introduced on the GHS in 2000 and was described in detail in the GHS 2000 report⁴. The effect of weighting on the smoking data is slight, increasing the overall prevalence of cigarette smoking by one percentage point. The change occurs because weighting reduces the contribution to the overall figure of those aged 60 and over, among whom prevalence is relatively low.

Government policy and targets for the reduction of smoking

In December 1998 *Smoking Kills – a White Paper on tobacco*⁵ was released, which included targets for reducing the prevalence of cigarette smoking among adults in England to 24 per cent by 2010. In 2004, the Department of Health agreed a new Public Service Agreement (PSA) which revised the target downwards: the aim now

is to reduce the prevalence of cigarette smoking among adults to 21 per cent or less by 2010⁶.

Since smoking is estimated to be the cause of about one third of all cancers, reducing smoking is also one of three key commitments at the heart of the NHS *Cancer Plan*, which was published in 2000⁷. In particular, the *Cancer Plan* focuses on the need to reduce the comparatively high rates of smoking among those in manual socio-economic groups, which result in much higher death rates from cancer among unskilled workers than among professionals. The more recent PSA targets mentioned in the previous paragraph also included reducing prevalence among routine and manual groups to 26 per cent or less by 2010.

Legislation came into force in February 2003 which banned cigarette advertising on billboards and in the press and magazines, and further restrictions on advertising at the point of sale were introduced in December 2004. A ban on smoking in enclosed public places came into force in Scotland during the spring of 2006 and similar bans in England and Wales were introduced in 2007. On the first of October 2007 it became illegal to sell tobacco products to anyone under the age of 18.

The GHS interview cannot accommodate extensive questions about people's views on smoking, but the NHS Information Centre for health and social care regularly commissions such questions on the ONS Omnibus Survey, most recently in October/November 2007⁸.

The prevalence of cigarette smoking

Trends in the prevalence of cigarette smoking

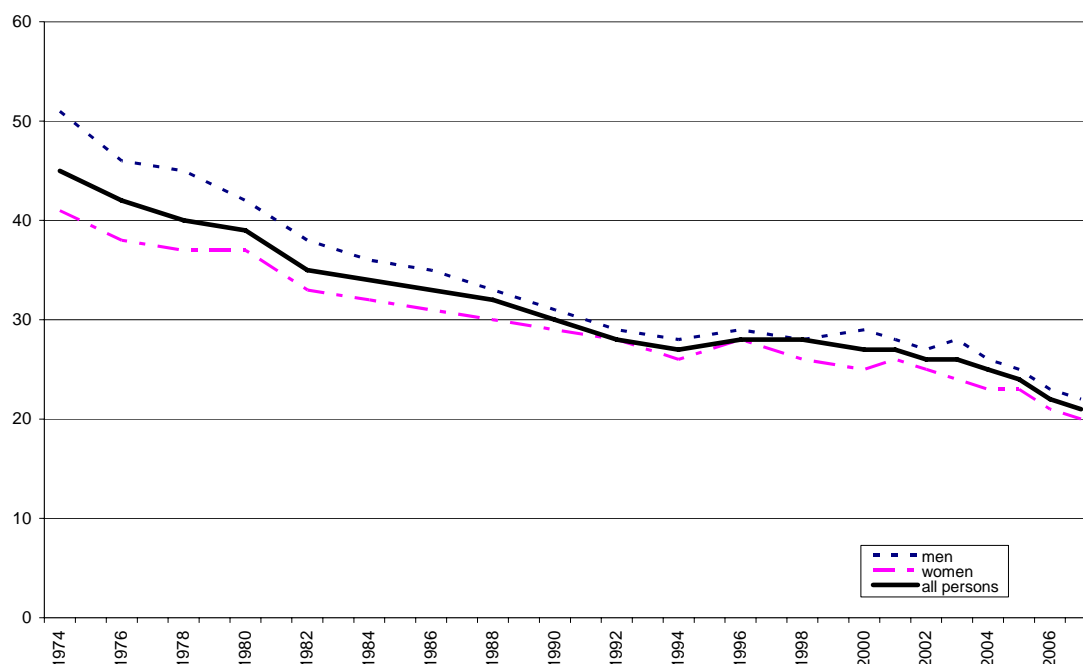
The overall prevalence of smoking among the adult population was 21 per cent in 2007, compared with 22 per cent the previous year. This is not a statistically significant change.

There has been a period of little change since the second half of the 1990s: the prevalence of cigarette smoking fell substantially in the 1970s and the early 1980s, from 45 per cent in 1974 to 35 per cent in 1982. The rate of decline then slowed, with prevalence falling by only about one percentage point every two years until 1994, after which it levelled out at about 27 per cent before resuming a slow decline in the 2000s.

It should be noted that during periods when the prevalence of smoking in the general population is changing little, upward and downward movements in survey estimates are to be expected, and this can make the detection of trends over a short period difficult.

Throughout the period in which the GHS has been monitoring cigarette smoking, prevalence has been higher among men than women, and this continues to be the case: in 2007, 22 per cent of men and 20 per cent of women were cigarette smokers.

Figure 1.1: Prevalence of cigarette smoking: Great Britain, 1974 to 2007



The present difference of two percentage points in prevalence between men and women is considerably less than it was in the 1970s. In 1974, for example, 51 per cent of men smoked cigarettes, compared with 41 per cent of women. The reduction in the difference results mainly from a combination of two factors.

1. First, there is a cohort effect resulting from the fact that smoking became common among men several decades before it did among women. In the 1970s there was a fall in the proportion of women aged 60 and over who had never smoked regularly.
2. Second, men are more likely than women to have given up smoking cigarettes. It should be noted, however, that this difference conceals the fact that some men who give up smoking cigarettes remain smokers (by continuing to smoke cigars and pipes). This is very rare among women who stop smoking cigarettes.

The proportion of respondents saying that they used to smoke regularly or that they never smoked has also not changed between 2006 and 2007.

Smoking among different age groups is another key area of interest. Since the early 1990s, the prevalence of cigarette smoking has been higher among those aged 20 to 24 than among those in other age groups, but the difference relative to the next age group, those aged 25 to 34, has generally reduced in recent years. The 2007 data, however, show the gap between the 20 to 24 group and the 25 to 34 group has widened. This is due to a fall in prevalence in the 25 to 34 age group from 30 per cent in 2006 to 26 per cent in 2007.

Since the survey began, the GHS has shown considerable fluctuation in prevalence rates among those aged 16 to 19, particularly if young men and young women are considered separately. However, this is mainly because of the relatively small sample size in this age group and has occurred within a pattern of overall decline in smoking prevalence in this age group from 31 per cent in 1998 to 21 per cent in 2007. Sampling fluctuations have also affected comparisons between young men

and women in this age group. In recent years, prevalence has tended to be higher among young women than among young men, but this was not the case in 2006 or 2007, when it was at similar levels for both sexes (22 per cent of men and 20 per cent of women aged 16-19 smoked in 2007).

At 12 per cent in 2007, prevalence continues to be lowest among adults aged 60 and over. Although they are more likely than younger people to have ever been smokers, they are also much more likely to have given up.

Figure 1.1, Tables 1.1-1.3

Cigarette smoking and marital status

The prevalence of cigarette smoking varies considerably according to marital status. It is much lower among married people than among those in any of the three other marital status categories (single, cohabiting, and widowed, divorced or separated). This is not explained by the association between age and marital status (for example, married people and those who are widowed, divorced or separated are older, on average, than single people). Table 1.5 shows that in every age group except the youngest, married people were less likely to be smokers than were other respondents (although the difference is not statistically significant among those aged 60 and over). For example, among those aged 25 to 34, 36 per cent of those who were single and 29 per cent of those who were cohabiting were smokers, compared with only 16 per cent of those who were married.

Tables 1.4-1.5

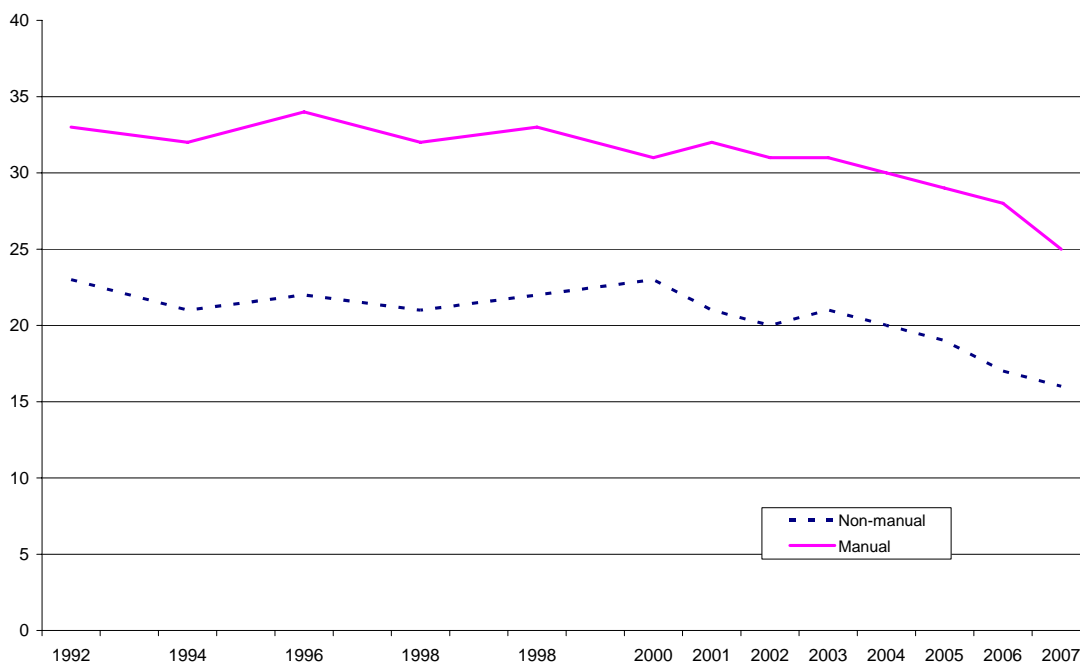
Cigarette smoking and socio-economic classification

The National Statistics Socio-economic Classification (NS-SEC), which was introduced in 2001, does not allow categories to be collapsed into broad non-manual and manual groupings. So, since the *Cancer Plan* targets for England relate particularly to those in the manual socio-economic groups, the old socio-economic groupings have been recreated for this report in Table 1.6. Because of the new occupation coding, the classifications are not exactly the same, and comparisons with previous years should be treated with caution.

The GHS has consistently shown striking differences in the prevalence of cigarette smoking in relation to socio-economic group, with smoking being considerably more prevalent among those in manual groups than among those in non-manual groups. In the 1970s and 1980s, the prevalence of cigarette smoking fell more sharply among those in non-manual than in manual groups, so that differences between the groups became proportionately greater (table not shown). There was little further change in the relative proportions smoking cigarettes during the 1990s.

In England in 2007, 25 per cent of those in manual groups were cigarette smokers, compared with 33 per cent in 1998, suggesting that the targets set out in the *Cancer Plan* have been achieved. These are to reduce prevalence among those in the manual group to 26 per cent in 2010. However, since the proportion of those in non-manual groups who are cigarette smokers has fallen by a similar amount (from 22 per cent in 1998 to 16 per cent in 2007) the differential between non-manual and manual has not reduced greatly.

Figure 1.2: Prevalence of cigarette smoking by socio-economic group: England, 1992 to 2007*



* weighted data are shown from 1998 onwards

However, caution is advisable when making comparisons over this period: the re-created socio-economic groups may have been affected by the change from head of household to household reference person as the basis for assessing socio-economic group, and by revisions to the way in which occupation is coded⁹.

Table 1.7 shows similar trends in England since 2001 using the new socio-economic classification of the household reference person⁹. It was noted earlier that there is a PSA target to reduce the prevalence of smoking among those in households classified as routine or manual to 26 per cent or lower by 2010. Over the period 2001 to 2007, the prevalence of cigarette smoking fell by seven percentage points among those in routine and manual households (from 33 per cent to 26 per cent), and among those in intermediate households (from 27 per cent to 20 per cent). Prevalence also fell by four percentage points among those in managerial and professional households (from 19 per cent in 2001 to 15 per cent in 2007).

The prevalence of cigarette smoking in Great Britain in 2007 in relation to the eight- and three- category versions of NS-SEC is shown in Table 1.8. As was the case with the socio-economic groupings used previously, there were striking differences between the various classes. Prevalence was lowest among those in higher professional households (11 per cent) and highest, at 29 per cent, among those whose household reference person was in a routine occupation.

Figure 1.2, Tables 1.6-1.8

Cigarette smoking and economic activity status

Those who were economically active were more likely to smoke than those who were not, but this is largely explained by the lower prevalence of smoking among those aged 60 and over, who form the majority of economically inactive people.

Prevalence was highest among economically inactive people aged 16 to 59: 26 per cent of this group were smokers, compared with 23 per cent of economically active people and only 12 per cent of economically inactive people aged 60 and over. Prevalence was particularly high among economically inactive people aged 16 to 59 whose last job was a routine or manual one, 39 per cent of whom were cigarette smokers.

It should be noted that these figures refer to the socio-economic classification of the current or last job of the individual whereas the figures in the previous section refer to the socio-economic classification of the current or last job of the household reference person.

Table 1.9

Regional variation in cigarette smoking

The data presented so far have been mainly for Great Britain, but the PSA targets and those included in the NHS *Cancer Plan* relate to England only. Table 1.10 shows that in 2007, overall prevalence in England was 21 per cent, the same as in Great Britain as a whole.

In every previous year except 2004, prevalence has been higher in Scotland than in England, although the difference has not always been large enough to be statistically significant. In 2007, 24 per cent of adults in Scotland were smokers, a significantly higher proportion than in England. In Wales, 21 per cent of adults were smokers, the same as the proportion in England but not significantly fewer than in Scotland. The proportion of adults who have never smoked regularly is not statistically different between the three countries, so that the variation in prevalence is due to different proportions of ex-smokers.

Care should be taken in interpreting the results for regional variation in any one year because sample sizes in some regions are small, making them subject to relatively high levels of sampling error.

The regions of England with the highest prevalence were the North East, the North West, the West Midlands and Yorkshire and the Humber, where 22-23 per cent of people were cigarette smokers (similar to the level in Scotland, and significantly higher than in all other regions except the South West). The prevalence of cigarette smoking was lowest, at 18 per cent, in the East of England.

Much of the overall regional variation in prevalence is contributed by differences in the proportions of smokers smoking 20 or more cigarettes a day. This ranges from 3 per cent in London to 9 per cent in the North East.

Tables 1.10-1.12

Cigarette consumption

The overall decline in smoking prevalence since the mid 1970s has been due to a fall in the proportions of both 'light to moderate' smokers (defined as fewer than 20 cigarettes per day) and heavy smokers (20 cigarettes or more per day). The proportion of all adults smoking on average 20 or more cigarettes a day has fallen

among men from 26 per cent in 1974 to 7 per cent in 2007, and from 13 per cent to 5 per cent of women over the same period.

In all age groups, respondents are much more likely to be 'light to moderate' than heavy smokers, the difference being most pronounced among those aged under 35. For example, 20 per cent of young men and 18 per cent of young women aged 16 to 19 were 'light to moderate' smokers in 2007, and only 1 per cent and 2 per cent respectively were heavy smokers.

The overall reported number of cigarettes smoked per male and female smoker has changed little since the early 1980s: the apparent slight fall among men smokers since the 1990s appears to be due to the introduction of weighting.

As in previous years, male smokers smoked slightly more cigarettes a day on average than female smokers: in 2007, men smoked on average 14 cigarettes a day, compared with 13 for women. Cigarette consumption also varied by age. Among both men and women smokers, those aged 35 to 59 smoked the most – men smokers in this age group smoked on average 16 cigarettes a day and women smoked 14 a day.

GHS reports have consistently shown cigarette consumption levels to be higher among male and female smokers in manual socio-economic groups than among those in non-manual groups. A similar pattern is evident in relation to NS-SEC. In 2007, smokers in households where the household reference person was in a routine or manual occupation smoked an average of 14 cigarettes a day, compared with 12 a day for those in managerial or professional households.

Tables 1.13-1.16

Cigarette type

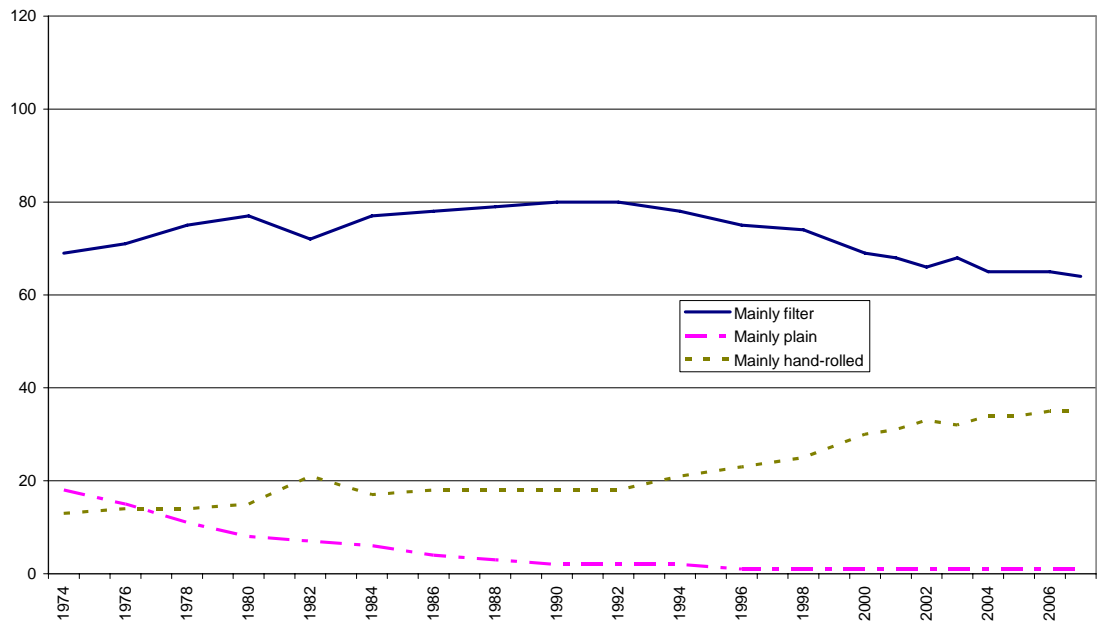
Filter cigarettes continue to be the most widely smoked type of cigarette, especially among women, but there has been a marked increase since the early 1990s in the proportion of smokers who smoke mainly hand-rolled tobacco. In 1990, 18 per cent of men smokers and 2 per cent of women smokers said they smoked mainly hand-rolled cigarettes, but by 2007 this had risen to 35 per cent and 17 per cent respectively. It should be noted that this increase in the proportion of smokers smoking mainly hand-rolled tobacco coincides with a fall in the prevalence of cigarette smoking from 30 per cent in 1990 to 21 per cent in 2007, so that the proportion of all adults who smoke hand-rolled tobacco has not increased so sharply: it has risen from about 3 per cent to about 5 per cent (no table shown).

The use of hand-rolled tobacco was higher among men aged 35 and over than among younger men. Among women smokers there was less variation with age.

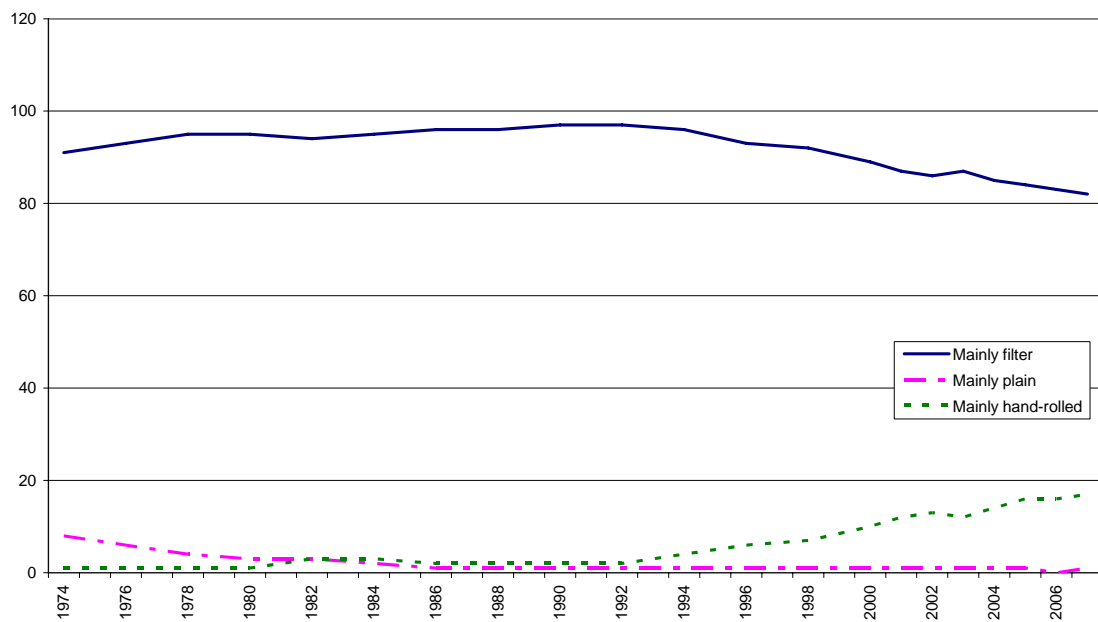
Figure 1.3, Tables 1.17-1.18

Figure 1.3: Type of cigarette smoked, by sex: Great Britain, 1974 to 2007

(a) Men



(b) Women



Tar yield¹⁰

In 1986, 40 per cent of those who smoked manufactured cigarettes smoked brands yielding 15mg or more of tar per cigarette. In the following decade, the proportion smoking this type of cigarette fell to zero. Initially, this was partly due to smokers switching to lower tar brands, but the main factor has been the requirement for manufacturers to reduce substantially the tar yields of existing brands. Following legislation in 1992, they were required to reduce the tar yield to no more than 12mg per cigarette by the beginning of 1998. An EU Directive which came into force at the end of 2002 further reduced the maximum tar yield to 10 mg per cigarette from January 2004.

The effect of the recent changes in legislation can be seen in Table 1.20, in that there have been no brands with a yield of 12mg or more since 2003, even though these were the main brand of more than one third of smokers in previous years. There has been a compensating increase in the next highest category: the proportion of smokers smoking brands with a yield of 10 but less than 12mg increased from 13 per cent in 1998 to 71 per cent in 2002 since when it has remained at about the same level until 2007 when it dropped to 62 per cent. Although this may seem surprising in view of the maximum legal declared yield of 10mg, the Directive relates to the tar yield as declared by the manufacturer, and this is permitted to vary by up to 15 per cent from the yield as measured for the Laboratory of the Government Chemist. Thus the yield as measured, which is what the GHS tables show, may be up to 11.5mg for a declared value of 10mg.

Differences between men and women in the tar yield of their usual brand were small.

There was a difference in tar yield of cigarettes smoked according to the socio-economic class of the smoker's household reference person. Those in managerial and professional households were more likely than other smokers to smoke lower tar cigarettes: 35 per cent of smokers in managerial and professional households smoked cigarettes with a tar yield less than 8mg, compared with only 18 per cent of smokers in routine and manual households.

Tables 1.19-1.22

Cigar and pipe smoking

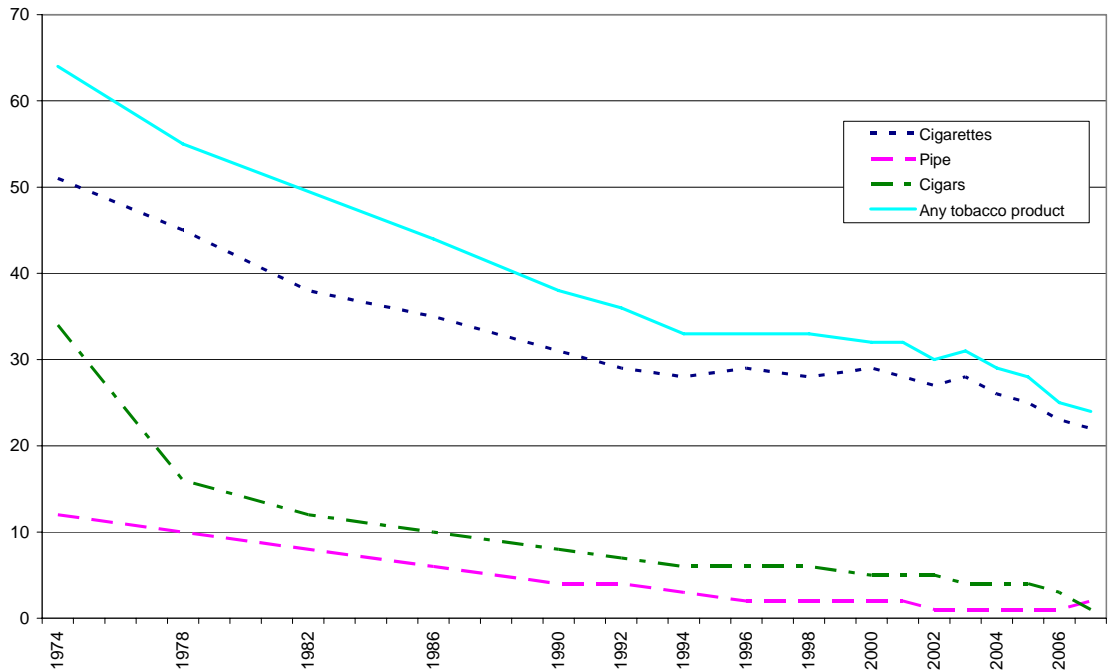
A decline in the prevalence of pipe and cigar smoking among men has been evident since the survey began, with most of the reduction occurring in the 1970s and 1980s.

In 2007, only 2 per cent of men smoked at least one cigar a month, compared with 34 per cent in 1974. Only a small number of women smoked cigars in 1974, and since 1978 the percentages have been scarcely measurable on the GHS.

Only 1 per cent of men in 2007 said they smoked a pipe, and they were almost all aged 50 and over. There was no evidence, on the other hand, that cigar smoking was related to age.

Figure 1.4, Tables 1.23-1.24

Figure 1.4: Type of tobacco product smoked by men, 1974 to 2007



Age started smoking

The White Paper *Smoking Kills*⁵ noted that people who start smoking at an early age are more likely than other smokers to smoke for a long period of time and more likely to die prematurely from a smoking-related disease.

About two thirds of respondents who were either current smokers or who had smoked regularly at some time in their lives had started smoking before they were 18. Almost two fifths had started smoking regularly before the age of 16 even though it has been illegal to sell cigarettes to people under 16 since 1908 and has recently become illegal to sell cigarettes to people less than 18 years of age¹¹. Men were more likely than women to have started smoking before they were 16 (41 per cent of men who had ever smoked regularly, compared with 36 per cent of women in 2007).

Since the early 1990s there appears to have been an increase in the proportion of women taking up smoking before the age of 16: in 1992, 28 per cent of women who had ever smoked had started before they were 16: this had risen to 36 per cent in 2005, but there was no further increase in 2006 or 2007. There has been little change since 1992 in the proportion of men who had ever smoked who had started smoking regularly before the age of 16.

As the GHS has shown in previous years, there was an association between age started smoking regularly and socio-economic classification based on the current or last job of the household reference person. Of those in managerial and professional households, 30 per cent had started smoking before they were 16, compared with 45 per cent of those in routine and manual households.

Current heavy smokers were much more likely than light or ex-smokers to have started smoking at an early age. Of those smoking 20 or more cigarettes a day, 50 per cent started smoking regularly before they were 16, compared with only 35 per cent of those currently smoking fewer than 10 cigarettes a day.

Tables 1.25-1.27

Dependence on cigarette smoking

In order for the prevalence of cigarette smoking to reduce, young people have to be discouraged from starting to smoke and existing smokers have to be encouraged to stop. Since 1992, the GHS has asked three questions relevant to the likelihood of a smoker giving up. First, whether they would like to stop smoking, and then two indicators of dependence: whether they think they would find it easy or difficult not to smoke for a whole day; and how soon after waking they smoke their first cigarette. There has been very little change since 1992 in any of the three dependence measures used.

For an attempt to stop smoking to be successful, the smoker must want to stop. In 2007, 66 per cent of smokers said they would like to stop smoking altogether. The relationship between wanting to stop smoking and the number of cigarettes smoked is not straightforward. In every survey since the questions were first included in 1992, the proportion wanting to give up has been highest among those smoking on average 10-19 cigarettes a day, although, as in 2007, differences have not always been statistically significant.

It is interesting that it is not the heaviest smokers who are most likely to want to stop. This may be because they feel it would be too difficult or because they have been discouraged from wanting to stop by previous unsuccessful attempts. Furthermore, some previously heavy smokers who would like to give up may have cut down their consumption prior to an attempt to do so.

In 2007, 58 per cent of smokers felt that it would be either very or fairly difficult to go without smoking for a whole day. Not surprisingly, heavier smokers were more likely to say they would find it difficult – 85 per cent of those smoking 20 or more cigarettes a day did so, compared with only 26 per cent of those smoking fewer than 10 cigarettes a day.

In 2007, 17 per cent of smokers had their first cigarette within five minutes of waking up. Heavy smokers were more likely than light smokers to smoke immediately on waking up: 35 per cent of those smoking 20 or more cigarettes did so, compared with only 3 per cent of those smoking fewer than 10 a day. Men were no more likely than women to say they had their first cigarette within five minutes of waking - 17 per cent of men smokers, compared with 16 per cent of women smokers did so.

Smokers in routine and manual households were less likely than smokers in managerial and professional or intermediate households to say they would like to give up smoking altogether (62 per cent compared with 70 per cent and 68 per cent respectively). The differences were less clear among those smoking 20 or more cigarettes a day.

Overall, smokers in routine and manual households were more likely than others to say they would find it difficult to go without smoking for a whole day (63 per cent compared with 53 per cent among those in managerial and professional households, and 58 per cent among those in intermediate households). However, once amount smoked was taken into account (smokers in the routine and manual group smoke more on average than smokers in other social classes) the pattern of association was less clear.

Overall, smokers in managerial and professional households were less likely than other smokers to have had their first cigarette within five minutes of waking than those in routine and manual households. Again, the pattern of association was less clear when allowing for amount smoked.

Tables 1.28-1.33

Notes and references

- 1** Goddard E, *General Household Survey 2005, Smoking and drinking among adults, 2005*, ONS 2006.
- 2** Kozlowski L T, Pack size, reported smoking rates and public health, *American Journal of Public Health*, 76 (11) pp1337-8 November 1986
- 3** See *Chapter 4, General Household Survey 1992*, HMSO 1994. This includes a discussion of the differences found when smoking prevalence reported by young adults on the GHS was compared with prevalence among secondary school children
- 4** See Appendix D, *Living in Britain: results from the 2000 General Household Survey*. The Stationery Office (London 2001).
- 5** *Smoking kills – a White Paper on tobacco*. The Stationery Office (London 1998)
- 6** Available at www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/media/8/7/sr04_psa_ch3.pdf
- 7** *The NHS Cancer Plan*, Department of Health, 2000: available at www.dh.gov.uk/assetRoot/04/01/45/13/04014513.pdf
- 8** The results are published in Lader D, *Smoking-related behaviour and attitudes, 2007* ONS (London 2008)
- 9** The term 'household reference person' is defined in appendix A of the GHS overview report. Available at: <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/StatBase/Product.asp?vlnk=5756>
Further information on Socio-economic classification is available at: <http://www.ons.gov.uk/about-statistics/classifications/current/ns-sec/index.html>
- 10** An error was found in the automated procedure for coding the brand of cigarette smoked which was introduced when the GHS moved to computerised interviewing in April 1994. The net effect of this was that from 1994 to 2000, some brands were wrongly assigned to a low tar category. The coding procedure was revised for the 2001 survey. Corrected data for 1998 and 2000 are given in Tables 1.19 and 1.20
- 11** The legal minimum age was raised to 18 on 1 October 2007.

Smoking in Great Britain

The individual figures for unweighted sample sizes are rounded to the nearest 10 cases and may not add up to the figures shown as the totals.

Table 1.1 Prevalence of cigarette smoking by sex and age: 1974 to 2007

| Persons aged 16 and over | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Great Britain | | |
|-------------------------------|------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|----------|------|------|------|------|------|-------------------|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Age | Unweighted | | | | | | | Weighted | | | | | | | Weighted base 2007 (000s) = 100% ³ | Unweighted sample ³ 2007 | | |
| | 1974 | 1978 | 1982 | 1986 | 1990 | 1994 | 1998 | 1998 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 ¹ | | | 2006 ² | 2007 ² |
| Percentage smoking cigarettes | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Men | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 16-19 | 42 | 35 | 31 | 30 | 28 | 28 | 30 | 30 | 30 | 25 | 22 | 27 | 23 | 23 | 20 | 22 | 1,302 | 380 |
| 20-24 | 52 | 45 | 41 | 41 | 38 | 40 | 42 | 41 | 35 | 40 | 37 | 38 | 36 | 34 | 33 | 32 | 1,255 | 360 |
| 25-34 | 56 | 48 | 40 | 37 | 36 | 34 | 37 | 38 | 39 | 38 | 36 | 38 | 35 | 34 | 33 | 29 | 3,020 | 860 |
| 35-49 | 55 | 48 | 40 | 37 | 34 | 31 | 32 | 33 | 31 | 31 | 29 | 32 | 31 | 29 | 26 | 25 | 5,738 | 1,970 |
| 50-59 | 53 | 48 | 42 | 35 | 28 | 27 | 27 | 28 | 27 | 26 | 27 | 26 | 26 | 25 | 23 | 22 | 3,255 | 1,260 |
| 60 and over | 44 | 38 | 33 | 29 | 24 | 18 | 16 | 16 | 16 | 16 | 17 | 16 | 15 | 14 | 13 | 13 | 5,424 | 2,400 |
| All aged 16 and over | 51 | 45 | 38 | 35 | 31 | 28 | 28 | 30 | 29 | 28 | 27 | 28 | 26 | 25 | 23 | 22 | 19,994 | 7,240 |
| Women | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 16-19 | 38 | 33 | 30 | 30 | 32 | 27 | 31 | 32 | 28 | 31 | 29 | 25 | 25 | 26 | 20 | 20 | 1,172 | 370 |
| 20-24 | 44 | 43 | 40 | 38 | 39 | 38 | 39 | 39 | 35 | 35 | 38 | 34 | 29 | 30 | 29 | 30 | 1,444 | 410 |
| 25-34 | 46 | 42 | 37 | 35 | 34 | 30 | 33 | 33 | 32 | 31 | 33 | 31 | 28 | 29 | 26 | 23 | 3,346 | 1,100 |
| 35-49 | 49 | 43 | 38 | 34 | 33 | 28 | 28 | 29 | 27 | 28 | 27 | 28 | 28 | 26 | 25 | 23 | 6,595 | 2,400 |
| 50-59 | 48 | 42 | 40 | 35 | 29 | 26 | 27 | 27 | 28 | 25 | 24 | 23 | 22 | 23 | 22 | 21 | 3,520 | 1,380 |
| 60 and over | 26 | 24 | 23 | 22 | 20 | 17 | 16 | 16 | 15 | 17 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 13 | 12 | 12 | 6,518 | 2,700 |
| All aged 16 and over | 41 | 37 | 33 | 31 | 29 | 26 | 26 | 26 | 25 | 26 | 25 | 24 | 23 | 23 | 21 | 20 | 22,594 | 8,380 |
| Total | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 16-19 | 40 | 34 | 30 | 30 | 30 | 27 | 31 | 31 | 29 | 28 | 25 | 26 | 24 | 24 | 20 | 21 | 2,474 | 760 |
| 20-24 | 48 | 44 | 40 | 39 | 38 | 39 | 40 | 40 | 35 | 37 | 38 | 36 | 32 | 32 | 31 | 31 | 2,699 | 780 |
| 25-34 | 51 | 45 | 38 | 36 | 35 | 32 | 35 | 35 | 35 | 34 | 34 | 34 | 31 | 31 | 30 | 26 | 6,366 | 1,970 |
| 35-49 | 52 | 45 | 39 | 36 | 34 | 30 | 30 | 31 | 29 | 29 | 28 | 30 | 29 | 27 | 25 | 24 | 12,333 | 4,370 |
| 50-59 | 51 | 45 | 41 | 35 | 29 | 27 | 27 | 28 | 27 | 26 | 26 | 25 | 24 | 24 | 22 | 21 | 6,775 | 2,640 |
| 60 and over | 34 | 30 | 27 | 25 | 21 | 17 | 16 | 16 | 16 | 17 | 15 | 15 | 14 | 14 | 12 | 12 | 11,941 | 5,110 |
| All aged 16 and over | 45 | 40 | 35 | 33 | 30 | 27 | 27 | 28 | 27 | 27 | 26 | 26 | 25 | 24 | 22 | 21 | 42,588 | 15,620 |

1 2005 data includes last quarter of 2004/05 data due to survey change from financial year to calendar year.
 2 Results for 2006 & 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).
 3 Trend tables show unweighted and weighted figures for 1998 to give an indication of the effect of the weighting. Bases for earlier years can be found in GHS reports for each year.

Table 1.2 Ex-regular cigarette smokers by sex and age: 1974 to 2007

| Persons aged 16 and over | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Great Britain | | |
|--|------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|----------|------|------|------|------|------|-------------------|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Age | Unweighted | | | | | | | Weighted | | | | | | | Weighted base 2007 (000s) = 100% ³ | Unweighted sample ³ 2007 | | |
| | 1974 | 1978 | 1982 | 1986 | 1990 | 1994 | 1998 | 1998 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 ¹ | | | 2006 ² | 2007 ² |
| Percentage of ex-regular cigarette smokers | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Men | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 16-19 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 1,302 | 380 |
| 20-24 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 11 | 8 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 7 | 9 | 7 | 7 | 8 | 7 | 11 | 9 | 1,255 | 360 |
| 25-34 | 18 | 18 | 20 | 20 | 16 | 16 | 13 | 13 | 12 | 15 | 13 | 13 | 15 | 14 | 16 | 17 | 3,020 | 860 |
| 35-49 | 21 | 26 | 32 | 33 | 32 | 27 | 22 | 21 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 5,738 | 1,970 |
| 50-59 | 30 | 35 | 38 | 38 | 42 | 40 | 41 | 40 | 36 | 36 | 35 | 32 | 34 | 34 | 31 | 33 | 3,255 | 1,260 |
| 60 and over | 37 | 43 | 47 | 52 | 52 | 55 | 54 | 54 | 52 | 47 | 51 | 50 | 50 | 51 | 49 | 49 | 5,424 | 2,400 |
| All aged 16 and over | 23 | 27 | 30 | 32 | 32 | 31 | 31 | 29 | 27 | 27 | 28 | 27 | 28 | 27 | 27 | 28 | 19,994 | 7,240 |
| Women | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 16-19 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 6 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 6 | 6 | 5 | 6 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 1,172 | 370 |
| 20-24 | 9 | 8 | 9 | 9 | 8 | 10 | 8 | 8 | 11 | 12 | 10 | 10 | 8 | 9 | 11 | 11 | 1,444 | 410 |
| 25-34 | 12 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 13 | 16 | 16 | 16 | 14 | 15 | 17 | 16 | 3,346 | 1,100 |
| 35-49 | 10 | 13 | 15 | 20 | 20 | 21 | 19 | 19 | 19 | 19 | 17 | 16 | 18 | 18 | 19 | 19 | 6,595 | 2,400 |
| 50-59 | 13 | 18 | 19 | 18 | 20 | 22 | 25 | 25 | 24 | 24 | 26 | 27 | 27 | 25 | 25 | 25 | 3,520 | 1,380 |
| 60 and over | 11 | 16 | 20 | 23 | 27 | 29 | 29 | 29 | 29 | 29 | 30 | 29 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 29 | 6,518 | 2,700 |
| All aged 16 and over | 11 | 14 | 16 | 18 | 19 | 21 | 21 | 20 | 20 | 21 | 21 | 21 | 20 | 21 | 21 | 21 | 22,594 | 8,380 |

1 2005 data includes last quarter of 2004/5 data due to survey change from financial year to calendar year.
 2 Results for 2006 & 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).
 3 Trend tables show unweighted and weighted figures for 1998 to give an indication of the effect of the weighting. Bases for earlier years can be found in GHS reports for each year.

Table 1.3 Percentage who have never smoked cigarettes regularly by sex and age: 1974 to 2007

| Persons aged 16 and over | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Great Britain | |
|--|------------|------|------|------|------|------|----------|------|------|------|------|------|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Age | Unweighted | | | | | | Weighted | | | | | | Weighted base 2007 (000s) = 100% ² | Unweighted sample ³ 2007 | | | | |
| | 1974 | 1978 | 1982 | 1986 | 1990 | 1994 | 1998 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | | | 2005 ¹ | 2006 ² | 2007 ² | |
| Percentage who have never smoked regularly | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Men | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 16-19 | 56 | 61 | 65 | 65 | 68 | 67 | 64 | 65 | 67 | 71 | 75 | 68 | 72 | 74 | 77 | 77 | 1,302 | 380 |
| 20-24 | 38 | 46 | 50 | 47 | 54 | 53 | 49 | 50 | 58 | 51 | 55 | 54 | 55 | 59 | 56 | 59 | 1,255 | 360 |
| 25-34 | 26 | 33 | 39 | 43 | 48 | 50 | 50 | 49 | 49 | 47 | 51 | 49 | 50 | 53 | 51 | 54 | 3,020 | 860 |
| 35-49 | 24 | 26 | 28 | 30 | 34 | 42 | 46 | 45 | 49 | 49 | 51 | 48 | 50 | 52 | 54 | 53 | 5,738 | 1,970 |
| 50-59 | 16 | 17 | 20 | 26 | 31 | 33 | 32 | 32 | 37 | 38 | 38 | 41 | 40 | 41 | 46 | 45 | 3,255 | 1,260 |
| 60 and over | 18 | 18 | 20 | 19 | 24 | 27 | 30 | 30 | 32 | 36 | 32 | 34 | 35 | 35 | 38 | 38 | 5,424 | 2,400 |
| All aged 16 and over | 25 | 29 | 32 | 34 | 37 | 40 | 41 | 42 | 44 | 45 | 46 | 45 | 46 | 47 | 50 | 50 | 19,994 | 7,240 |
| Women | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 16-19 | 58 | 62 | 64 | 62 | 62 | 67 | 62 | 61 | 66 | 63 | 66 | 69 | 70 | 70 | 76 | 78 | 1,172 | 370 |
| 20-24 | 47 | 49 | 51 | 54 | 53 | 52 | 53 | 53 | 54 | 53 | 52 | 55 | 62 | 61 | 61 | 60 | 1,444 | 410 |
| 25-34 | 42 | 44 | 48 | 48 | 52 | 55 | 53 | 53 | 54 | 53 | 51 | 53 | 58 | 56 | 57 | 61 | 3,346 | 1,100 |
| 35-49 | 41 | 44 | 47 | 46 | 48 | 51 | 52 | 52 | 54 | 53 | 55 | 55 | 54 | 56 | 58 | 58 | 6,595 | 2,400 |
| 50-59 | 38 | 39 | 41 | 47 | 51 | 52 | 48 | 48 | 48 | 51 | 50 | 50 | 51 | 51 | 53 | 55 | 3,520 | 1,380 |
| 60 and over | 63 | 60 | 57 | 55 | 54 | 54 | 55 | 56 | 56 | 54 | 55 | 57 | 58 | 58 | 58 | 58 | 6,518 | 2,700 |
| All aged 16 and over | 49 | 49 | 51 | 51 | 52 | 54 | 53 | 53 | 54 | 53 | 54 | 55 | 57 | 57 | 58 | 59 | 22,594 | 8,380 |

1 2005 data includes last quarter of 2004/5 data due to survey change from financial year to calendar year.

2 Results for 2006 & 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).

3 Trend tables show unweighted and weighted figures for 1998 to give an indication of the effect of the weighting. Bases for earlier years can be found in GHS reports for each year.

Table 1.4 Cigarette-smoking status by sex and marital status

| Persons aged 16 and over | | | | | | | Great Britain: 2007 ¹ | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------|-----------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|--------|
| Marital status | Current cigarette smokers | | | Current non-smokers of cigarettes | | Weighted base (000s) = 100% | Unweighted sample | |
| | Light to moderate (under 20 per day) | Heavy (20 or more per day) | Total | Ex-regular cigarette smokers | Never or only occasionally smoked cigarettes | | | |
| Men | | | | | | | | |
| Single | % | 21 | 6 | 28 | 11 | 62 | 4,743 | 1,380 |
| Married/cohabiting | % | 13 | 6 | 19 | 33 | 48 | 13,136 | 5,090 |
| Married couple | % | 12 | 5 | 17 | 35 | 48 | 10,860 | 4,310 |
| Cohabiting couple | % | 22 | 10 | 32 | 22 | 46 | 2,276 | 780 |
| Widowed/divorced/separated | % | 16 | 11 | 26 | 37 | 36 | 2,114 | 770 |
| All aged 16 and over | % | 16 | 7 | 22 | 28 | 50 | 19,994 | 7,240 |
| Women | | | | | | | | |
| Single | % | 23 | 5 | 28 | 12 | 61 | 4,093 | 1,350 |
| Married/cohabiting | % | 13 | 4 | 17 | 22 | 61 | 13,817 | 5,340 |
| Married couple | % | 10 | 4 | 14 | 22 | 64 | 11,489 | 4,530 |
| Cohabiting couple | % | 24 | 7 | 31 | 21 | 48 | 2,328 | 810 |
| Widowed/divorced/separated | % | 15 | 6 | 21 | 26 | 52 | 4,684 | 1,690 |
| All aged 16 and over | % | 15 | 5 | 20 | 21 | 59 | 22,594 | 8,380 |
| Total | | | | | | | | |
| Single | % | 22 | 5 | 28 | 11 | 61 | 8,837 | 2,730 |
| Married/cohabiting | % | 13 | 5 | 18 | 27 | 55 | 26,953 | 10,420 |
| Married couple | % | 11 | 4 | 15 | 29 | 56 | 22,349 | 8,840 |
| Cohabiting couple | % | 23 | 8 | 31 | 22 | 47 | 4,604 | 1,580 |
| Widowed/divorced/separated | % | 15 | 7 | 23 | 30 | 47 | 6,799 | 2,460 |
| All aged 16 and over | % | 15 | 6 | 21 | 24 | 55 | 42,588 | 15,620 |

1 Results for 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).

Table 1.5 Cigarette-smoking status by age and marital status

| <i>Persons aged 16 and over</i> | | | | | | <i>Great Britain: 2007¹</i> |
|------------------------------------|-------|-------|--------|-------|-------------|--|
| Marital status | Age | | | | | Total |
| | 16-24 | 25-34 | 35-49 | 50-59 | 60 and over | |
| Percentage smoking cigarettes | | | | | | |
| Single | 24 | 36 | 33 | 27 | 15 | 28 |
| Married/cohabiting | 35 | 21 | 21 | 18 | 11 | 18 |
| Married couple | 29 | 16 | 18 | 18 | 10 | 15 |
| Cohabiting couple | 37 | 29 | 33 | 31 | 18 | 31 |
| Widowed/divorced/separated | * | 42 | 35 | 31 | 15 | 23 |
| All aged 16 and over | 26 | 26 | 24 | 21 | 12 | 21 |
| <i>Weighted base (000s) = 100%</i> | | | | | | |
| Single | 4,263 | 1,760 | 1,646 | 475 | 693 | 8,837 |
| Married/cohabiting | 894 | 4,377 | 9,270 | 5,146 | 7,265 | 26,953 |
| Married couple | 210 | 2,595 | 7,694 | 4,789 | 7,061 | 22,349 |
| Cohabiting couple | 685 | 1,782 | 1,576 | 357 | 204 | 4,604 |
| Widowed/divorced/separated | 15 | 229 | 1,417 | 1,154 | 3,984 | 6,799 |
| All aged 16 and over | 5,173 | 6,366 | 12,333 | 6,775 | 11,941 | 42,588 |
| <i>Unweighted sample</i> | | | | | | |
| Single | 1,270 | 540 | 500 | 160 | 260 | 2,730 |
| Married/cohabiting | 260 | 1,350 | 3,400 | 2,060 | 3,340 | 10,420 |
| Married couple | 50 | 820 | 2,820 | 1,900 | 3,240 | 8,840 |
| Cohabiting couple | 210 | 540 | 580 | 160 | 100 | 1,580 |
| Widowed/divorced/separated | 10 | 80 | 480 | 410 | 1,500 | 2,460 |
| All aged 16 and over | 1,530 | 1,970 | 4,370 | 2,640 | 5,110 | 15,620 |

1 Results for 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).

Shaded figures indicate the estimates are unreliable and any analysis using these figures may be invalid. Any use of these shaded figures must be accompanied by this disclaimer.

Table 1.6 Prevalence of cigarette smoking by sex and whether household reference person is in a non-manual or manual socio-economic group: England 1992 to 2007^{1,2}

| <i>Persons aged 16 and over</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | <i>England</i> | | |
|---|------------|------|------|------|----------|------|------|------|------|------|-------------------|-------------------|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Socio-economic group of household reference person ³ | Unweighted | | | | Weighted | | | | | | | | Weighted base 2007 (000s) = 100% ⁵ | Unweighted sample ⁵ 2007 | |
| | 1992 | 1994 | 1996 | 1998 | 1998 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 ⁴ | 2006 ² | | | 2007 ² |
| Percentage smoking cigarettes | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Men | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Non-manual | 22 | 21 | 21 | 21 | 22 | 24 | 22 | 21 | 22 | 22 | 19 | 18 | 18 | 9,276 | 3,470 |
| Manual | 35 | 34 | 35 | 34 | 35 | 34 | 34 | 32 | 33 | 31 | 31 | 29 | 27 | 6,973 | 2,450 |
| Total ⁶ | 29 | 28 | 28 | 28 | 29 | 29 | 28 | 27 | 27 | 26 | 25 | 23 | 22 | 17,060 | 6,150 |
| Women | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Non-manual | 23 | 21 | 22 | 21 | 22 | 22 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 19 | 18 | 16 | 16 | 10,899 | 4,140 |
| Manual | 30 | 30 | 33 | 31 | 31 | 29 | 31 | 30 | 29 | 28 | 28 | 27 | 24 | 7,371 | 2,650 |
| Total ⁶ | 27 | 25 | 27 | 26 | 26 | 25 | 25 | 25 | 24 | 23 | 22 | 21 | 19 | 19,222 | 7,090 |
| All persons | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Non-manual | 23 | 21 | 22 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 21 | 20 | 21 | 20 | 19 | 17 | 16 | 20,175 | 7,610 |
| Manual | 33 | 32 | 34 | 32 | 33 | 31 | 32 | 31 | 31 | 30 | 29 | 28 | 25 | 14,344 | 5,100 |
| Total ⁶ | 28 | 26 | 28 | 27 | 28 | 27 | 27 | 26 | 25 | 25 | 24 | 22 | 21 | 36,282 | 13,240 |

1 Figures for 1992 to 1996 are taken from Department of Health bulletin Statistics on smoking: England, 1978 onwards. Figures for 2001 to 2006 are based on the NS-SEC classification recoded to produce SEG and should therefore be treated with caution.

2 Results for 2006 & 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).

3 Head of household in years before 2000.

4 2005 data includes last quarter of 2004/5 data due to survey change from financial year to calendar year.

5 Trend tables show unweighted and weighted figures for 1998 to give an indication of the effect of the weighting. Bases for earlier years can be found in GHS reports for each year.

6 Respondents whose head of household/household reference person was a full time student, in the Armed forces, had an inadequately described occupation, had never worked or were long-term unemployed are not shown as separate categories but are included in the total

Table 1.7 Prevalence of cigarette smoking by sex and socio-economic classification of the household reference person: England, 2001 to 2007¹

| <i>Persons aged 16 and over</i> | | | | | | | | <i>England</i> | |
|--|----------|------|------|------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--|--|
| Socio-economic classification of household reference person | Weighted | | | | | | | Weighted base 2007 (000s) = 100% ⁴ | Unweighted sample ⁴ 2007 |
| | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 ² | 2006 ¹ | 2007 ¹ | | |
| Percentage smoking cigarettes | | | | | | | | | |
| Men | | | | | | | | | |
| Managerial and professional | 21 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 18 | 17 | 16 | 7,431 | 2,810 |
| Intermediate | 29 | 27 | 28 | 26 | 24 | 22 | 21 | 3,019 | 1,080 |
| Routine and manual | 34 | 32 | 34 | 32 | 32 | 32 | 28 | 5,816 | 2,040 |
| Total ³ | 28 | 27 | 27 | 26 | 25 | 23 | 22 | 17,036 | 6,140 |
| Women | | | | | | | | | |
| Managerial and professional | 17 | 17 | 17 | 17 | 16 | 14 | 14 | 7,950 | 3,070 |
| Intermediate | 26 | 25 | 24 | 22 | 22 | 20 | 18 | 3,586 | 1,300 |
| Routine and manual | 31 | 31 | 30 | 30 | 29 | 28 | 24 | 6,752 | 2,430 |
| Total ³ | 25 | 25 | 24 | 23 | 22 | 21 | 19 | 19,198 | 7,080 |
| All persons | | | | | | | | | |
| Managerial and professional | 19 | 19 | 18 | 19 | 17 | 15 | 15 | 15,381 | 5,880 |
| Intermediate | 27 | 26 | 26 | 24 | 23 | 21 | 20 | 6,605 | 2,380 |
| Routine and manual | 33 | 31 | 32 | 31 | 31 | 29 | 26 | 12,568 | 4,470 |
| Total ³ | 27 | 26 | 25 | 25 | 24 | 22 | 21 | 36,234 | 13,220 |

1 Results for 2006 & 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).

2 2005 data includes last quarter of 2004/5 data due to survey change from financial year to calendar year.

3 Respondents whose household reference person was a full time student, had an inadequately described occupation, had never worked or was long-term unemployed these are not shown as separate categories but are included in the total.

4 Trend tables show unweighted and weighted figures for 1998 to give an indication of the effect of the weighting. Bases for earlier years can be found in GHS reports for each year.

Table 1.8 Prevalence of cigarette smoking by sex and socio-economic classification based on the current or last job of the household reference person

| <i>Persons aged 16 and over</i> | | <i>Great Britain: 2007¹</i> | | |
|--|---------------|--|---------------|----|
| Socio-economic classification of household reference person ² | Men | Women | Total | |
| Percentage smoking cigarettes | | | | |
| Managerial and professional | | | | |
| Large employers and higher managerial | 13 | 15 | 14 | |
| Higher professional | 12 | 10 | 11 | 15 |
| Lower managerial and professional | 19 | 16 | 17 | |
| Intermediate | | | | |
| Intermediate | 20 | 17 | 18 | 20 |
| Small employers and own account | 22 | 20 | 21 | |
| Routine and manual | | | | |
| Lower supervisory and technical | 25 | 22 | 23 | |
| Semi-routine | 31 | 27 | 28 | 27 |
| Routine | 31 | 27 | 29 | |
| Total² | 22 | 20 | 21 | |
| <i>Weighted bases (000s) = 100%</i> | | | | |
| Large employers and higher managerial | 1,758 | 1,742 | 3,450 | |
| Higher professional | 2,196 | 1,948 | 4,145 | |
| Lower managerial and professional | 4,582 | 5,423 | 10,005 | |
| Intermediate | 1,337 | 2,154 | 3,491 | |
| Small employers and own account | 2,205 | 2,108 | 4,313 | |
| Lower supervisory and technical | 2,399 | 2,174 | 4,573 | |
| Semi-routine | 2,224 | 3,208 | 5,432 | |
| Routine | 2,310 | 2,619 | 4,929 | |
| Total² | 19,895 | 22,388 | 42,282 | |
| <i>Unweighted sample</i> | | | | |
| Large employers and higher managerial | 690 | 700 | 1,390 | |
| Higher professional | 810 | 760 | 1,560 | |
| Lower managerial and professional | 1,740 | 2,090 | 3,830 | |
| Intermediate | 490 | 800 | 1,280 | |
| Small employers and own account | 780 | 760 | 1,530 | |
| Lower supervisory and technical | 850 | 800 | 1,640 | |
| Semi-routine | 770 | 1,150 | 1,920 | |
| Routine | 830 | 950 | 1,780 | |
| Total² | 7,210 | 8,300 | 15,510 | |

1 Results for 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).

2 Respondents whose household reference person was a full time student, had an inadequately described occupation, had never worked or was long-term unemployed are not shown as separate categories but are included in the total.

Table 1.9 Prevalence of cigarette smoking by sex and socio-economic classification based on own current or last job, whether economically active or inactive, and, for economically inactive persons, age

| <i>Persons aged 16 and over</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | <i>Great Britain: 2007¹</i> |
|-------------------------------------|--------|----------------|----------------------|----------------|--------|--------|----------------|----------------------|----------------|--------|-------------|----------------|----------------------|----------------|--|
| Socio-economic classification | Men | | | | | Women | | | | | All persons | | | | |
| | Active | Inactive 16-59 | Inactive 60 and over | Total inactive | Total | Active | Inactive 16-59 | Inactive 60 and over | Total inactive | Total | Active | Inactive 16-59 | Inactive 60 and over | Total inactive | Total |
| Percentage smoking cigarettes | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Managerial and professional | 16 | 23 | 8 | 10 | 14 | 16 | 14 | 8 | 10 | 14 | 16 | 16 | 8 | 10 | 14 |
| Intermediate | 24 | 40 | 12 | 16 | 22 | 19 | 20 | 10 | 12 | 16 | 21 | 24 | 10 | 14 | 19 |
| Routine and manual | 32 | 47 | 18 | 26 | 30 | 31 | 35 | 15 | 22 | 26 | 32 | 39 | 16 | 23 | 28 |
| Total ² | 24 | 29 | 13 | 18 | 22 | 22 | 25 | 12 | 17 | 20 | 23 | 26 | 12 | 18 | 21 |
| <i>Weighted bases (000s) = 100%</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Managerial and professional | 5,693 | 234 | 1,549 | 1,783 | 7,476 | 5,005 | 603 | 1,246 | 1,849 | 6,854 | 10,698 | 837 | 2,795 | 3,632 | 14,330 |
| Intermediate | 2,442 | 138 | 764 | 902 | 3,344 | 2,990 | 538 | 1,459 | 1,997 | 4,989 | 5,432 | 676 | 2,224 | 2,899 | 8,333 |
| Routine and manual | 4,679 | 733 | 1,927 | 2,660 | 7,338 | 3,957 | 1,522 | 2,788 | 4,310 | 8,268 | 8,636 | 2,255 | 4,714 | 6,969 | 15,606 |
| Total ² | 13,610 | 2,063 | 4,283 | 6,346 | 19,955 | 12,823 | 3,951 | 5,770 | 9,722 | 22,547 | 26,432 | 6,014 | 10,053 | 16,067 | 42,502 |
| <i>Unweighted sample</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Managerial and professional | 2,040 | 100 | 730 | 830 | 2,870 | 1,830 | 240 | 530 | 770 | 2,600 | 3,870 | 330 | 1,260 | 1,600 | 5,470 |
| Intermediate | 840 | 50 | 330 | 380 | 1,220 | 1,100 | 200 | 630 | 840 | 1,940 | 1,940 | 250 | 670 | 1,220 | 3,160 |
| Routine and manual | 1,560 | 230 | 820 | 1,050 | 2,610 | 1,400 | 540 | 1,110 | 1,650 | 3,050 | 2,950 | 770 | 1,940 | 2,700 | 5,660 |
| Total ² | 4,660 | 660 | 1,900 | 2,570 | 7,230 | 4,600 | 1,380 | 2,380 | 3,760 | 8,360 | 9,260 | 2,050 | 4,280 | 6,330 | 15,590 |

1 Results for 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).

2 Full time students, those who had never worked or were long-term unemployed, and those whose occupation was inadequately described are not shown as separate categories but are included in the total.

Shaded figures indicate the estimates are unreliable and any analysis using these figures may be invalid. Any use of these shaded figures must be accompanied by this disclaimer.

Table 1.10 Prevalence of cigarette smoking by sex and country: 1978 to 2007

| <i>Persons aged 16 and over</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | <i>Great Britain</i> | | |
|---------------------------------|------------|------|------|------|------|------|----------|------|------|------|------|------|---|-------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Country | Unweighted | | | | | | Weighted | | | | | | Weighted base 2007 (000s) = 100% ³ | Unweighted sample ³ 2007 | | | |
| | 1978 | 1982 | 1986 | 1990 | 1994 | 1998 | 1998 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | | | 2005 ¹ | 2006 ² | 2007 ² |
| Percentage smoking cigarettes | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Men | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| England | 44 | 37 | 34 | 31 | 28 | 28 | 29 | 29 | 28 | 27 | 27 | 26 | 25 | 23 | 22 | 17,122 | 6,170 |
| Wales | 44 | 36 | 33 | 30 | 28 | 28 | 29 | 25 | 27 | 27 | 29 | 24 | 24 | 19 | 21 | 1,105 | 420 |
| Scotland | 48 | 45 | 37 | 33 | 31 | 33 | 35 | 30 | 32 | 29 | 35 | 29 | 28 | 25 | 24 | 1,767 | 650 |
| Great Britain | 45 | 38 | 35 | 31 | 28 | 28 | 30 | 29 | 28 | 27 | 28 | 26 | 25 | 23 | 22 | 19,994 | 7,240 |
| Women | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| England | 36 | 32 | 31 | 28 | 25 | 26 | 26 | 25 | 25 | 25 | 24 | 23 | 22 | 21 | 19 | 19,395 | 7,150 |
| Wales | 37 | 34 | 30 | 31 | 27 | 26 | 27 | 24 | 26 | 27 | 26 | 22 | 21 | 20 | 20 | 1,138 | 450 |
| Scotland | 42 | 39 | 35 | 35 | 29 | 29 | 29 | 30 | 30 | 28 | 28 | 22 | 25 | 25 | 24 | 2,062 | 780 |
| Great Britain | 37 | 33 | 31 | 29 | 26 | 26 | 26 | 25 | 26 | 25 | 24 | 23 | 23 | 21 | 20 | 22,594 | 8,380 |
| All persons | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| England | 40 | 35 | 32 | 29 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 27 | 27 | 26 | 25 | 25 | 24 | 22 | 21 | 36,517 | 13,330 |
| Wales | 40 | 35 | 31 | 31 | 27 | 27 | 28 | 25 | 27 | 27 | 27 | 23 | 22 | 20 | 21 | 2,242 | 860 |
| Scotland | 45 | 42 | 36 | 34 | 30 | 30 | 31 | 30 | 31 | 28 | 31 | 25 | 27 | 25 | 24 | 3,829 | 1,430 |
| Great Britain | 40 | 35 | 33 | 30 | 27 | 27 | 28 | 27 | 27 | 26 | 26 | 25 | 24 | 22 | 21 | 42,588 | 15,620 |

1 2005 data includes last quarter of 2004/5 data due to survey change from financial year to calendar year.

2 Results for 2006 & 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).

3 Trend tables show unweighted and weighted figures for 1998 to give an indication of the effect of the weighting. Bases for earlier years can be found in GHS reports for each year.

Table 1.11 Prevalence of cigarette smoking by sex, country, and region of England: 1998 to 2007

| <i>Persons aged 16 and over</i> | | | | | | | | | | <i>Great Britain</i> | | |
|---------------------------------|----------|------|------|------|------|------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---|---|--|
| Government Office Region | Weighted | | | | | | | | | <i>Weighted base 2007 (000s) = 100%³</i> | <i>Unweighted sample³ 2007</i> | |
| | 1998 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 ¹ | 2006 ² | 2007 ² | | | |
| Men | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Percentage smoking cigarettes | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| England | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| North East | 28 | 27 | 33 | 24 | 30 | 28 | 28 | 25 | 21 | 794 | 290 | |
| North West | 29 | 29 | 28 | 28 | 30 | 27 | 26 | 26 | 25 | 2,293 | 830 | |
| Yorkshire and the Humber | 30 | 29 | 30 | 27 | 25 | 30 | 27 | 24 | 21 | 1,754 | 650 | |
| East Midlands | 27 | 27 | 28 | 24 | 31 | 27 | 25 | 21 | 22 | 1,549 | 630 | |
| West Midlands | 32 | 27 | 27 | 25 | 26 | 26 | 23 | 25 | 25 | 1,813 | 630 | |
| East of England | 26 | 27 | 27 | 25 | 28 | 26 | 25 | 22 | 20 | 2,141 | 800 | |
| London | 34 | 31 | 29 | 29 | 28 | 26 | 25 | 24 | 22 | 2,161 | 580 | |
| South East | 28 | 28 | 26 | 27 | 25 | 25 | 24 | 21 | 21 | 2,858 | 1,070 | |
| South West | 26 | 30 | 27 | 27 | 26 | 25 | 26 | 22 | 21 | 1,759 | 700 | |
| All England | 29 | 29 | 28 | 27 | 27 | 26 | 25 | 23 | 22 | 17,122 | 6,170 | |
| Wales | 29 | 25 | 27 | 27 | 29 | 24 | 24 | 19 | 21 | 1,105 | 420 | |
| Scotland | 35 | 30 | 32 | 29 | 35 | 29 | 28 | 25 | 24 | 1,767 | 650 | |
| Great Britain | 30 | 29 | 28 | 27 | 28 | 26 | 25 | 23 | 22 | 19,994 | 7,240 | |
| Women | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| England | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| North East | 30 | 28 | 26 | 29 | 27 | 30 | 30 | 25 | 22 | 930 | 360 | |
| North West | 32 | 30 | 29 | 28 | 30 | 28 | 23 | 23 | 22 | 2,622 | 970 | |
| Yorkshire and the Humber | 28 | 26 | 28 | 27 | 24 | 26 | 23 | 23 | 23 | 2,087 | 800 | |
| East Midlands | 26 | 24 | 27 | 24 | 24 | 28 | 25 | 19 | 17 | 1,707 | 710 | |
| West Midlands | 26 | 24 | 22 | 21 | 24 | 21 | 21 | 19 | 21 | 2,044 | 730 | |
| East of England | 24 | 23 | 25 | 25 | 22 | 23 | 21 | 17 | 16 | 2,207 | 860 | |
| London | 27 | 24 | 26 | 21 | 20 | 19 | 20 | 19 | 17 | 2,581 | 700 | |
| South East | 21 | 23 | 23 | 25 | 22 | 20 | 21 | 19 | 17 | 3,235 | 1,230 | |
| South West | 25 | 24 | 22 | 24 | 22 | 21 | 25 | 23 | 20 | 1,982 | 800 | |
| All England | 26 | 25 | 25 | 25 | 24 | 23 | 22 | 21 | 19 | 19,395 | 7,150 | |
| Wales | 27 | 24 | 26 | 27 | 26 | 22 | 21 | 20 | 20 | 1,138 | 450 | |
| Scotland | 29 | 30 | 30 | 28 | 28 | 22 | 25 | 25 | 24 | 2,062 | 780 | |
| Great Britain | 26 | 25 | 26 | 25 | 24 | 23 | 23 | 21 | 20 | 22,594 | 8,380 | |
| All persons | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| England | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| North East | 29 | 27 | 29 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 29 | 25 | 22 | 1,724 | 650 | |
| North West | 31 | 30 | 29 | 28 | 30 | 28 | 24 | 25 | 23 | 4,915 | 1,800 | |
| Yorkshire and the Humber | 29 | 28 | 29 | 27 | 25 | 28 | 25 | 23 | 22 | 3,841 | 1,440 | |
| East Midlands | 27 | 25 | 28 | 24 | 27 | 27 | 25 | 20 | 19 | 3,257 | 1,340 | |
| West Midlands | 29 | 26 | 24 | 23 | 25 | 23 | 22 | 22 | 23 | 3,856 | 1,360 | |
| East of England | 25 | 25 | 26 | 25 | 25 | 24 | 23 | 19 | 18 | 4,348 | 1,660 | |
| London | 31 | 27 | 27 | 24 | 24 | 22 | 22 | 21 | 19 | 4,742 | 1,280 | |
| South East | 24 | 25 | 24 | 26 | 24 | 22 | 22 | 20 | 19 | 6,092 | 2,300 | |
| South West | 25 | 27 | 24 | 25 | 24 | 23 | 25 | 23 | 21 | 3,742 | 1,500 | |
| All England | 28 | 27 | 27 | 26 | 25 | 25 | 24 | 22 | 21 | 36,517 | 13,330 | |
| Wales | 28 | 25 | 27 | 27 | 27 | 23 | 22 | 20 | 21 | 2,242 | 860 | |
| Scotland | 31 | 30 | 31 | 28 | 31 | 25 | 27 | 25 | 24 | 3,829 | 1,430 | |
| Great Britain | 28 | 27 | 27 | 26 | 26 | 25 | 24 | 22 | 21 | 42,588 | 15,620 | |

1 2005 data includes last quarter of 2004/5 data due to survey change from financial year to calendar year.

2 Results for 2006 & 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).

3 Trend tables show unweighted and weighted figures for 1998 to give an indication of the effect of the weighting. Bases for earlier years can be found in GHS reports for each year.

Table 1.12 Cigarette-smoking status by sex, country and region of England: 2007

| <i>Persons aged 16 and over</i> | | | | | | | | <i>Great Britain: 2007¹</i> | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|--|--------|
| Government Office Region | Current cigarette smokers | | | Current non-smokers of cigarettes | | | <i>Weighted base (000s) = 100%</i> | <i>Unweighted sample</i> | |
| | Heavy (20 or more per day) | Moderate (10-19 per day) | Light (fewer than 10 per day) | All current smokers | Ex-regular cigarette smokers | Never or only occasionally smoked cigarettes | | | |
| Men | | | | | | | | | |
| England | | | | | | | | | |
| North East | % | 9 | 8 | 5 | 21 | 26 | 53 | 794 | 290 |
| North West | % | 7 | 10 | 8 | 25 | 29 | 46 | 2,293 | 830 |
| Yorkshire and the Humber | % | 6 | 10 | 4 | 21 | 26 | 54 | 1,754 | 650 |
| East Midlands | % | 5 | 10 | 6 | 22 | 26 | 53 | 1,549 | 630 |
| West Midlands | % | 8 | 10 | 7 | 25 | 27 | 48 | 1,813 | 630 |
| East of England | % | 6 | 10 | 4 | 20 | 29 | 51 | 2,141 | 800 |
| London | % | 4 | 10 | 8 | 22 | 26 | 52 | 2,161 | 580 |
| South East | % | 6 | 8 | 7 | 21 | 33 | 46 | 2,858 | 1,070 |
| South West | % | 7 | 8 | 7 | 21 | 33 | 46 | 1,759 | 700 |
| All England | % | 6 | 9 | 6 | 22 | 29 | 49 | 17,122 | 6,170 |
| Wales | % | 8 | 9 | 4 | 21 | 27 | 52 | 1,105 | 420 |
| Scotland | % | 9 | 9 | 6 | 24 | 23 | 53 | 1,767 | 650 |
| Great Britain | % | 7 | 9 | 6 | 22 | 28 | 50 | 19,994 | 7,240 |
| Women | | | | | | | | | |
| England | | | | | | | | | |
| North East | % | 9 | 8 | 6 | 22 | 20 | 58 | 930 | 360 |
| North West | % | 5 | 10 | 6 | 22 | 23 | 55 | 2,622 | 970 |
| Yorkshire and the Humber | % | 6 | 11 | 6 | 23 | 22 | 55 | 2,087 | 790 |
| East Midlands | % | 4 | 8 | 5 | 17 | 21 | 62 | 1,707 | 710 |
| West Midlands | % | 5 | 9 | 7 | 21 | 19 | 60 | 2,044 | 730 |
| East of England | % | 3 | 7 | 6 | 16 | 23 | 60 | 2,207 | 860 |
| London | % | 3 | 8 | 6 | 17 | 19 | 64 | 2,581 | 700 |
| South East | % | 3 | 7 | 6 | 17 | 23 | 60 | 3,235 | 1,230 |
| South West | % | 4 | 10 | 7 | 20 | 24 | 56 | 1,982 | 800 |
| All England | % | 4 | 9 | 6 | 19 | 22 | 59 | 19,395 | 7,150 |
| Wales | % | 5 | 10 | 5 | 20 | 19 | 61 | 1,138 | 450 |
| Scotland | % | 7 | 12 | 5 | 24 | 16 | 60 | 2,062 | 780 |
| Great Britain | % | 5 | 9 | 6 | 20 | 21 | 59 | 22,594 | 8,380 |
| Total | | | | | | | | | |
| England | | | | | | | | | |
| North East | % | 9 | 8 | 5 | 22 | 23 | 56 | 1,724 | 650 |
| North West | % | 6 | 10 | 7 | 23 | 26 | 51 | 4,915 | 1,800 |
| Yorkshire and the Humber | % | 6 | 10 | 5 | 22 | 23 | 54 | 3,841 | 1,440 |
| East Midlands | % | 4 | 9 | 6 | 19 | 23 | 57 | 3,257 | 1,340 |
| West Midlands | % | 6 | 9 | 7 | 23 | 23 | 54 | 3,856 | 1,360 |
| East of England | % | 5 | 8 | 5 | 18 | 26 | 56 | 4,348 | 1,660 |
| London | % | 3 | 9 | 7 | 19 | 22 | 58 | 4,742 | 1,280 |
| South East | % | 5 | 8 | 6 | 19 | 28 | 53 | 6,092 | 2,300 |
| South West | % | 5 | 9 | 7 | 21 | 28 | 51 | 3,742 | 1,500 |
| All England | % | 5 | 9 | 6 | 21 | 25 | 54 | 36,517 | 13,330 |
| Wales | % | 7 | 9 | 5 | 21 | 23 | 56 | 2,242 | 860 |
| Scotland | % | 8 | 10 | 5 | 24 | 19 | 57 | 3,829 | 1,430 |
| Great Britain | % | 6 | 9 | 6 | 21 | 24 | 55 | 42,588 | 15,620 |

¹ Results for 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).

Table 1.13 Cigarette-smoking status by sex: 1974 to 2007

| <i>Persons aged 16 and over</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | <i>Great Britain</i> | | | | | | | | | |
|---|------------|--------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | Unweighted | | | | | | | Weighted | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 1974 | 1978 | 1982 | 1986 | 1990 | 1994 | 1998 | 1998 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 ¹ | 2006 ² | 2007 ² | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Percentages | | | | | | | | | |
| Men | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Current cigarette smokers | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Light to moderate (under 20 per day) | 25 | 22 | 20 | 20 | 17 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 18 | 19 | 17 | 18 | 18 | 17 | 15 | 16 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Heavy (20 or more per day) | 26 | 23 | 18 | 15 | 14 | 12 | 10 | 11 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 9 | 8 | 8 | 7 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total current cigarette smokers | 51 | 45 | 38 | 35 | 31 | 28 | 28 | 30 | 29 | 28 | 27 | 28 | 26 | 25 | 23 | 22 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Ex-regular cigarette smokers | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 23 | 27 | 30 | 32 | 32 | 31 | 31 | 29 | 27 | 27 | 28 | 27 | 28 | 27 | 27 | 28 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Never or only occasionally | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 25 | 29 | 32 | 34 | 37 | 40 | 41 | 42 | 44 | 45 | 46 | 45 | 46 | 47 | 50 | 50 | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Weighted base (000s) = 100%</i> ³ | | | | | | | | 19,229 | 20,350 | 19,913 | 19,561 | 19,187 | 19,561 | 19,496 | 19,918 | 19,994 | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Unweighted sample</i> ³ | 9,850 | 10,480 | 9,200 | 8,870 | 8,110 | 7,640 | 6,580 | | 6,590 | 7,060 | 6,840 | 8,100 | 6,870 | 10,040 | 7,680 | 7,240 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Women | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Current cigarette smokers | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Light to moderate (under 20 per day) | 28 | 23 | 22 | 21 | 20 | 18 | 19 | 19 | 19 | 19 | 18 | 18 | 17 | 17 | 16 | 15 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Heavy (20 or more per day) | 13 | 13 | 11 | 10 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 7 | 6 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 6 | 6 | 5 | 5 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total current cigarette smokers | 41 | 37 | 33 | 31 | 29 | 26 | 26 | 26 | 25 | 26 | 25 | 24 | 23 | 23 | 21 | 20 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Ex-regular cigarette smokers | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 11 | 14 | 16 | 18 | 19 | 21 | 21 | 20 | 20 | 21 | 21 | 21 | 20 | 21 | 21 | 21 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Never or only occasionally | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 49 | 49 | 51 | 51 | 52 | 54 | 53 | 53 | 54 | 53 | 54 | 55 | 57 | 57 | 58 | 59 | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Weighted base (000s) = 100%</i> ³ | | | | | | | | 21,654 | 22,044 | 21,987 | 22,236 | 21,842 | 22,396 | 22,315 | 22,721 | 22,594 | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Unweighted sample</i> ³ | 11,480 | 12,160 | 10,640 | 10,300 | 9,440 | 9,110 | 7,830 | | 7,500 | 8,300 | 7,950 | 9,330 | 8,030 | 11,630 | 9,000 | 8,380 | | | | | | | | | | |

1 2005 data includes last quarter of 2004/5 data due to survey change from financial year to calendar year.

2 Results for 2006 & 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).

3 Trend tables show unweighted and weighted figures for 1998 to give an indication of the effect of the weighting. For the weighted data (1998 and 2000 to 2006) the weighted base (000s) is the base for percentages. Unweighted data (up to 1998) are based on the unweighted sample.

Table 1.14 Cigarette-smoking status by sex and age

| Persons aged 16 and over | | | | | | | Great Britain: 2007 ¹ | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|--|----|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Age | Current cigarette smokers | | | Current non-smokers of cigarettes | | | Weighted base (000s) = 100% | Unweighted sample |
| | Light to moderate (under 20 per day) | Heavy (20 or more per day) | All current smokers | Ex-regular cigarette smokers | Never or only occasionally smoked cigarettes | | | |
| Men | | | | | | | | |
| 16-19 | % | 20 | 1 | 22 | 1 | 77 | 1,302 | 380 |
| 20-24 | % | 27 | 5 | 32 | 9 | 59 | 1,255 | 360 |
| 25-34 | % | 22 | 7 | 29 | 17 | 54 | 3,020 | 860 |
| 35-49 | % | 16 | 9 | 25 | 21 | 53 | 5,738 | 1,970 |
| 50-59 | % | 14 | 8 | 22 | 33 | 45 | 3,255 | 1,260 |
| 60 and over | % | 8 | 4 | 13 | 49 | 38 | 5,424 | 2,400 |
| All aged 16 and over | % | 16 | 7 | 22 | 28 | 50 | 19,994 | 7,240 |
| Women | | | | | | | | |
| 16-19 | % | 18 | 2 | 20 | 2 | 78 | 1,172 | 370 |
| 20-24 | % | 25 | 4 | 30 | 11 | 60 | 1,444 | 410 |
| 25-34 | % | 20 | 3 | 23 | 16 | 61 | 3,346 | 1,100 |
| 35-49 | % | 16 | 6 | 23 | 19 | 58 | 6,595 | 2,400 |
| 50-59 | % | 14 | 7 | 21 | 25 | 55 | 3,520 | 1,380 |
| 60 and over | % | 9 | 3 | 12 | 29 | 58 | 6,518 | 2,700 |
| All aged 16 and over | % | 15 | 5 | 20 | 21 | 59 | 22,594 | 8,380 |
| Total | | | | | | | | |
| 16-19 | % | 19 | 2 | 21 | 2 | 78 | 2,474 | 760 |
| 20-24 | % | 26 | 5 | 31 | 10 | 59 | 2,699 | 780 |
| 25-34 | % | 21 | 5 | 26 | 17 | 57 | 6,366 | 1,970 |
| 35-49 | % | 16 | 8 | 24 | 20 | 56 | 12,333 | 4,370 |
| 50-59 | % | 14 | 7 | 21 | 29 | 50 | 6,775 | 2,640 |
| 60 and over | % | 9 | 4 | 12 | 38 | 49 | 11,941 | 5,110 |
| All aged 16 and over | % | 15 | 6 | 21 | 24 | 55 | 42,588 | 15,620 |

1 Results for 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).

Table 1.15 Average daily cigarette consumption per smoker by sex and age: 1974 to 2007

| Current cigarette smokers aged 16 and over | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Great Britain | | |
|--|------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|----------|------|------|------|------|------|-------------------|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Age | Unweighted | | | | | | | Weighted | | | | | | | Weighted base 2007 (000s) = 100% ³ | Unweighted sample ³ 2007 | | |
| | 1974 | 1978 | 1982 | 1986 | 1990 | 1994 | 1998 | 1998 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 ¹ | | | 2006 ² | 2007 ² |
| Mean number of cigarettes per day | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Men | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 16-19 | 16 | 14 | 12 | 12 | 13 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 12 | 11 | 11 | 13 | 11 | 13 | 10 | 10 | 283 | 80 |
| 20-24 | 19 | 17 | 16 | 15 | 16 | 13 | 14 | 13 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 11 | 11 | 12 | 12 | 404 | 110 |
| 25-34 | 19 | 19 | 17 | 16 | 16 | 15 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 12 | 12 | 13 | 12 | 884 | 250 |
| 35-49 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 19 | 19 | 18 | 17 | 18 | 17 | 17 | 17 | 16 | 16 | 15 | 16 | 16 | 1,449 | 470 |
| 50-59 | 18 | 20 | 18 | 17 | 17 | 20 | 18 | 18 | 17 | 18 | 18 | 18 | 18 | 17 | 16 | 16 | 712 | 260 |
| 60 and over | 14 | 15 | 16 | 15 | 15 | 14 | 16 | 16 | 15 | 15 | 16 | 15 | 14 | 15 | 18 | 15 | 687 | 290 |
| All aged 16 and over | 18 | 18 | 17 | 16 | 17 | 16 | 16 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 14 | 15 | 14 | 4,418 | 1,470 |
| Women | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 16-19 | 12 | 13 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 12 | 12 | 10 | 11 | 10 | 9 | 9 | 235 | 80 |
| 20-24 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 12 | 13 | 13 | 12 | 11 | 10 | 11 | 10 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 10 | 427 | 130 |
| 25-34 | 15 | 16 | 16 | 14 | 15 | 14 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 11 | 12 | 11 | 11 | 776 | 270 |
| 35-49 | 15 | 16 | 15 | 16 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 14 | 15 | 15 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 1,498 | 520 |
| 50-59 | 13 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 14 | 718 | 280 |
| 60 and over | 10 | 11 | 11 | 12 | 12 | 13 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 784 | 320 |
| All aged 16 and over | 13 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 4,439 | 1,600 |

1 2005 data includes last quarter of 2004/5 data due to survey change from financial year to calendar year.

2 Results for 2006 & 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).

3 Trend tables show unweighted and weighted figures for 1998 to give an indication of the effect of the weighting. Bases for earlier years can be found in GHS reports for each year.

Table 1.16 Average daily cigarette consumption per smoker by sex, and socio-economic classification based on the current or last job of the household reference person

| <i>Current cigarette smokers aged 16 and over</i> | | <i>Great Britain: 2007¹</i> | | |
|--|-------|--|-------|----|
| Socio-economic classification of household reference person ¹ | Men | Women | Total | |
| Mean number of cigarettes a day | | | | |
| Managerial and professional | | | | |
| Large employers and higher managerial | 12 | 10 | 11 | |
| Higher professional | 11 | 12 | 11 | 12 |
| Lower managerial and professional | 13 | 11 | 12 | |
| Intermediate | | | | |
| Intermediate | 14 | 13 | 13 | |
| Small employers and own account | 14 | 13 | 14 | 14 |
| Routine and manual | | | | |
| Lower supervisory and technical | 15 | 13 | 14 | |
| Semi-routine | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 |
| Routine | 16 | 13 | 15 | |
| Total ¹ | 14 | 13 | 13 | |
| <i>Weighted bases (000s) = 100%</i> | | | | |
| Large employers and higher managerial | 236 | 264 | 500 | |
| Higher professional | 265 | 198 | 463 | |
| Lower managerial and professional | 883 | 843 | 1,726 | |
| Intermediate | 265 | 370 | 635 | |
| Small employers and own account | 491 | 421 | 912 | |
| Lower supervisory and technical | 593 | 473 | 1,066 | |
| Semi-routine | 680 | 853 | 1,533 | |
| Routine | 723 | 706 | 1,429 | |
| Total ² | 4,400 | 4,401 | 8,802 | |
| <i>Unweighted sample</i> | | | | |
| Large employers and higher managerial | 80 | 100 | 180 | |
| Higher professional | 80 | 80 | 160 | |
| Lower managerial and professional | 300 | 310 | 610 | |
| Intermediate | 100 | 130 | 230 | |
| Small employers and own account | 160 | 150 | 310 | |
| Lower supervisory and technical | 200 | 180 | 380 | |
| Semi-routine | 220 | 300 | 520 | |
| Routine | 240 | 250 | 500 | |
| Total ² | 1,460 | 1,580 | 3,040 | |

1 Results for 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).

2 Respondents whose household reference person was a full time student, had an inadequately described occupation, had never worked or was long-term unemployed are not shown as separate categories but are included in the total.

Table 1.17 Type of cigarette smoked by sex: 1974 to 2007

| Current cigarette smokers aged 16 and over | | | | | | | | Great Britain | | | | | | | | |
|---|------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Type of cigarette smoked | Unweighted | | | | | | | Weighted | | | | | | | | |
| | 1974 | 1978 | 1982 | 1986 | 1990 | 1994 | 1998 | 1998 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 ¹ | 2006 ² | 2007 ² |
| Men | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| Mainly filter | 69 | 75 | 72 | 78 | 80 | 78 | 74 | 74 | 69 | 68 | 66 | 68 | 65 | 65 | 65 | 64 |
| Mainly plain | 18 | 11 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Mainly hand-rolled | 13 | 14 | 21 | 18 | 18 | 21 | 25 | 25 | 30 | 31 | 33 | 32 | 34 | 34 | 35 | 35 |
| <i>Weighted base (000s) = 100%</i> ³ | | | | | | | | 5,687 | 5,802 | 5,643 | 5,246 | 5,367 | 5,158 | 4,927 | 4,618 | 4,428 |
| <i>Unweighted sample</i> ³ | 4,990 | 4,650 | 3,470 | 3,070 | 2,510 | 2,150 | 1,860 | | 1,800 | 1,900 | 1,760 | 2,170 | 1,750 | 2,400 | 1,660 | 1,470 |
| | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| Women | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mainly filter | 91 | 95 | 94 | 96 | 97 | 96 | 92 | 92 | 89 | 87 | 86 | 87 | 85 | 84 | 83 | 82 |
| Mainly plain | 8 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Mainly hand-rolled | 1 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 7 | 8 | 10 | 12 | 13 | 12 | 14 | 16 | 16 | 17 |
| <i>Weighted base (000s) = 100%</i> ³ | | | | | | | | 5,735 | 5,619 | 5,635 | 5,560 | 5,287 | 5,156 | 5,060 | 4,743 | 4,449 |
| <i>Unweighted sample</i> ³ | 4,600 | 4,420 | 3,520 | 3,190 | 2,750 | 2,340 | 2,040 | | 1,900 | 2,100 | 1,960 | 2,230 | 1,830 | 2,580 | 1,820 | 1,600 |

1 2005 data includes last quarter of 2004/5 data due to survey change from financial year to calendar year.

2 Results for 2006 & 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).

3 Trend tables show unweighted and weighted figures for 1998 to give an indication of the effect of the weighting. For the weighted data (1998 and 2000 to 2006) the weighted base (000s) is the base for percentages. Unweighted data (up to 1998) are based on the unweighted sample.

Table 1.18 Type of cigarette smoked by sex and age

| Current cigarette smokers aged 16 and over | | | | | | | Great Britain: 2007 ¹ |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Type of cigarette smoked | Age | | | | | | |
| | 16-24 | 25-34 | 35-49 | 50-59 | 60 and over | All aged 16 and over | |
| Men | % | % | % | % | % | % | |
| Mainly filter | 70 | 73 | 64 | 53 | 60 | 64 | |
| Mainly plain | 1 | 0 | 1 | - | 0 | 1 | |
| Mainly hand-rolled | 30 | 26 | 35 | 47 | 40 | 35 | |
| <i>Weighted base (000s) = 100%</i> | 686 | 884 | 1,449 | 719 | 691 | 4,428 | |
| <i>Unweighted sample</i> | 190 | 250 | 470 | 260 | 290 | 1,470 | |
| Women | | | | | | | |
| Mainly filter | 82 | 76 | 82 | 81 | 89 | 82 | |
| Mainly plain | 1 | 2 | 0 | - | 1 | 1 | |
| Mainly hand-rolled | 17 | 22 | 18 | 19 | 9 | 17 | |
| <i>Weighted base (000s) = 100%</i> | 662 | 776 | 1,498 | 722 | 791 | 4,449 | |
| <i>Unweighted sample</i> | 200 | 270 | 520 | 280 | 320 | 1,600 | |
| Total | | | | | | | |
| Mainly filter | 76 | 75 | 73 | 67 | 75 | 73 | |
| Mainly plain | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | 1 | 1 | |
| Mainly hand-rolled | 23 | 24 | 26 | 33 | 24 | 26 | |
| <i>Weighted base (000s) = 100%</i> | 1,348 | 1,660 | 2,947 | 1,441 | 1,482 | 8,878 | |
| <i>Unweighted sample</i> | 400 | 520 | 1,000 | 540 | 610 | 3,070 | |

1 Results for 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).

Table 1.19 Grouped tar yield per cigarette: 1986 to 2007

| <i>Current smokers of manufactured cigarettes</i> | | | | | | | | | | | <i>Great Britain</i> | | | | |
|---|------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--|
| Tar yield | Unweighted | | | | | Weighted | | | | | | | | | |
| | 1986 | 1988 | 1990 | 1992 | 1998 | 1998 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 ¹ | 2006 ² | 2007 ² | |
| | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | |
| <10mg | 19 | 21 | 24 | 25 | 28 | 28 | 27 | 26 | 27 | 26 | 26 | 24 | 25 | 38 | |
| 10<15mg | 32 | 58 | 54 | 68 | 70 | 69 | 71 | 71 | 71 | 71 | 71 | 73 | 72 | 62 | |
| 15+mg | 40 | 17 | 19 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | |
| No regular brand/dk tar | 10 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | - | |
| <i>Weighted base (000s) = 100%³</i> | | | | | | 9,568 | 9,104 | 8,850 | 8,317 | 8,306 | 7,812 | 7,510 | 6,987 | 6,539 | |
| <i>Unweighted sample³</i> | 5,620 | 5,360 | 4,740 | 4,660 | 3,290 | 2,960 | 3,170 | 2,870 | 3,420 | 2,720 | 3,760 | 2,610 | 2,260 | | |

1 2005 data includes last quarter of 2004/5 data due to survey change from financial year to calendar year.

2 Results for 2006 & 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).

3 Trend tables show unweighted and weighted figures for 1998 to give an indication of the effect of the weighting. For the weighted data (1998 and 2000 to 2006) the weighted base (000s) is the base for percentages. Unweighted data (up to 1998) are based on the unweighted sample.

Table 1.20 Tar yield per cigarette: 1998 to 2007

| <i>Current smokers of manufactured cigarettes</i> | | | | | | | | | | | <i>Great Britain</i> |
|---|----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----|----------------------|
| Tar yield | Weighted | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 1998 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 ¹ | 2006 ² | 2007 ² | | |
| | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | |
| Less than 4mg | 5 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | |
| 4<8mg | 17 | 22 | 17 | 17 | 17 | 19 | 17 | 17 | 17 | 22 | |
| 8<10mg | 11 | 9 | 7 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 6 | 7 | 7 | 12 | |
| 10<12mg | 13 | 27 | 35 | 34 | 71 | 71 | 73 | 72 | 62 | | |
| 12<15mg | 51 | 34 | 36 | 37 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | | |
| No regular brand/dk tar yield | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | - | | |
| <i>Weighted base (000s) = 100%</i> | 9,568 | 9,104 | 8,850 | 8,317 | 8,306 | 7,812 | 7,510 | 6,989 | 6,539 | | |
| <i>Unweighted sample</i> | 3,290 | 2,960 | 3,170 | 2,870 | 3,420 | 2,720 | 3,760 | 2,610 | 2,260 | | |

1 2005 data includes last quarter of 2004/5 data due to survey change from financial year to calendar year.

2 Results for 2006 & 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).

Table 1.21 Tar yields by sex and age of smoker

| <i>Current smokers of manufactured cigarettes aged 16 and over</i> | | | | | | <i>Great Britain: 2007¹</i> | |
|--|---|---------------|-------|--------|---------|--|--------------------------|
| Tar yield | | | | | | <i>Weighted base</i> | <i>Unweighted sample</i> |
| | | Less than 4mg | 4<8mg | 8<10mg | 10<12mg | No regular brand/dk tar yield | (000s) =100% |
| Men | | | | | | | |
| 16-19 | % | 1 | 13 | 10 | 76 | - | 205 |
| 20-24 | % | 1 | 26 | 10 | 63 | - | 277 |
| 25-34 | % | 4 | 26 | 18 | 52 | - | 650 |
| 35-49 | % | 4 | 26 | 7 | 64 | - | 932 |
| 50-59 | % | 2 | 14 | 7 | 77 | - | 379 |
| 60 and over | % | 5 | 15 | 14 | 66 | - | 413 |
| Total | % | 3 | 22 | 11 | 64 | - | 2,855 |
| Women | | | | | | | |
| 16-19 | % | 3 | 12 | 9 | 76 | - | 198 |
| 20-24 | % | 3 | 17 | 10 | 71 | - | 354 |
| 25-34 | % | 2 | 31 | 14 | 52 | - | 605 |
| 35-49 | % | 4 | 21 | 15 | 61 | - | 1,234 |
| 50-59 | % | 2 | 21 | 11 | 66 | - | 582 |
| 60 and over | % | 4 | 22 | 17 | 58 | - | 711 |
| Total | % | 3 | 22 | 14 | 61 | - | 3,684 |
| Total | | | | | | | |
| 16-19 | % | 2 | 13 | 9 | 76 | - | 402 |
| 20-24 | % | 2 | 21 | 10 | 67 | - | 631 |
| 25-34 | % | 3 | 28 | 16 | 52 | - | 1,255 |
| 35-49 | % | 4 | 23 | 11 | 62 | - | 2,167 |
| 50-59 | % | 2 | 18 | 10 | 70 | - | 961 |
| 60 and over | % | 4 | 19 | 16 | 61 | - | 1,124 |
| Total | % | 3 | 22 | 13 | 62 | - | 6,539 |

1 Results for 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).

Shaded figures indicate the estimates are unreliable and any analysis using these figures may be invalid. Any use of these shaded figures must be accompanied by this disclaimer.

Table 1.22 Tar yields by sex and socio-economic classification based on the current or last job of the household reference person

| <i>Current smokers of manufactured cigarettes aged 16 and over</i> | | | | | | | <i>Great Britain: 2007¹</i> | |
|--|---------------|-------|--------|---------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|-------|
| Socio-economic class of household reference person ³ | Tar yields | | | | | Weighted base (000s) = 100% | Unweighted sample | |
| | Less than 4mg | 4<8mg | 8<10mg | 10<12mg | No regular brand/dk tar yield | | | |
| Men | | | | | | | | |
| Managerial and professional | % | 5 | 30 | 10 | 55 | - | 1,060 | 360 |
| Intermediate | % | 4 | 21 | 13 | 62 | - | 478 | 160 |
| Routine and manual | % | 1 | 15 | 12 | 71 | - | 1,149 | 380 |
| Total ¹ | % | 3 | 22 | 11 | 64 | - | 2,847 | 930 |
| Women | | | | | | | | |
| Managerial and professional | % | 3 | 32 | 16 | 49 | - | 1,122 | 410 |
| Intermediate | % | 3 | 23 | 10 | 64 | - | 693 | 240 |
| Routine and manual | % | 3 | 16 | 14 | 67 | - | 1,611 | 590 |
| Total ¹ | % | 3 | 22 | 14 | 61 | - | 3,651 | 1,320 |
| All persons | | | | | | | | |
| Managerial and professional | % | 4 | 31 | 13 | 52 | - | 2,182 | 770 |
| Intermediate | % | 4 | 22 | 11 | 63 | - | 1,171 | 400 |
| Routine and manual | % | 2 | 16 | 13 | 69 | - | 2,760 | 960 |
| Total ¹ | % | 3 | 22 | 12 | 63 | - | 6,498 | 2,250 |

1 Results for 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).

2 Respondents whose household reference person was a full time student, had an inadequately described occupation, had never worked or was long-term unemployed are not shown as separate categories but are included in the total.

Table 1.23 Prevalence of smoking by sex and type of product smoked: 1974 to 2007

| <i>Persons aged 16 and over</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | <i>Great Britain</i> | | |
|--|------------|--------|-------------------|--------|-------|-------|-------|----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | Unweighted | | | | | | | Weighted | | | | | | | | |
| | 1974 | 1978 | 1982 ¹ | 1986 | 1990 | 1994 | 1998 | 1998 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 ² | 2006 ³ | 2007 ³ |
| Percentage smoking | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Men | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cigarettes ⁴ | 51 | 45 | 38 | 35 | 31 | 28 | 28 | 30 | 29 | 28 | 27 | 28 | 26 | 25 | 23 | 22 |
| Pipe | 12 | 10 | .. | 6 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Cigars ⁵ | 34 | 16 | 12 | 10 | 8 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 2 |
| All smokers ⁶ | 64 | 55 | 45 | 44 | 38 | 33 | 33 | 34 | 32 | 32 | 30 | 31 | 29 | 28 | 25 | 24 |
| Weighted base (000s) = 100% | | | | | | | | 19,225 | 20,350 | 19,972 | 19,561 | 19,187 | 19,561 | 19,498 | 19,920 | 19,996 |
| Unweighted sample ⁷ | 9,860 | 10,440 | 9,170 | 8,880 | 8,120 | 7,660 | 6,580 | | 6,590 | 7,070 | 6,840 | 8,100 | 6,870 | 10,040 | 7,680 | 7,240 |
| Women | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cigarettes ⁴ | 41 | 37 | 33 | 31 | 29 | 26 | 26 | 26 | 25 | 26 | 25 | 24 | 23 | 23 | 21 | 20 |
| Cigars ⁵ | 3 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| All smokers ⁶ | 41 | 37 | 34 | 31 | 29 | 26 | 26 | 27 | 26 | 26 | 25 | 24 | 23 | 23 | 21 | 20 |
| Weighted base (000s) = 100% ⁷ | | | | | | | | 21,653 | 22,044 | 22,032 | 22,236 | 21,842 | 22,393 | 22,315 | 22,723 | 22,594 |
| Unweighted sample ⁷ | 11,420 | 12,080 | 10,560 | 10,310 | 9,460 | 9,140 | 7,830 | | 7,500 | 8,320 | 7,950 | 9,330 | 8,030 | 11,630 | 9,010 | 8,380 |

1 In 1982 and 1984 men were not asked about pipe smoking, and therefore the figures for all smokers exclude those who smoked only a pipe.

2 2005 data includes last quarter of 2004/5 data due to survey change from financial year to calendar year.

3 Results for 2006 & 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).

4 Figures for cigarettes include all smokers of manufactured and hand-rolled cigarettes.

5 For 1974 the figures include occasional cigar smokers, that is, those who smoked less than one cigar a month.

6 The percentages for cigarettes, pipes and cigars add to more than the percentage for all smokers because some people smoked more than one type of product.

7 Trend tables show unweighted and weighted figures for 1998 to give an indication of the effect of the weighting. For the weighted data (1998 and 2000 to 2006) the weighted base (000s) is the base for percentages. Unweighted data (up to 1998) are based on the unweighted sample.

Table 1.24 Prevalence of smoking among men by age and type of product smoked¹

| <i>Men aged 16 and over</i> | | | | | <i>Great Britain: 2007¹</i> | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|--|----------------|--|
| Age | Cigarettes ² | Pipe ³ | Cigars ³ | All smokers ⁴ | Weighted base (000s) | Unwgt'd sample | |
| Percentage smoking | | | | | | | |
| 16-19 | 22 | 1 | 1 | 22 | 1,304 | 380 | |
| 20-24 | 32 | 0 | 2 | 33 | 1,255 | 360 | |
| 25-29 | 34 | 0 | 1 | 34 | 1,367 | 380 | |
| 30-34 | 26 | 0 | 3 | 27 | 1,653 | 480 | |
| 35-49 | 25 | 0 | 2 | 26 | 5,738 | 1,970 | |
| 50-59 | 22 | 2 | 3 | 25 | 3,255 | 1,260 | |
| 60 and over | 13 | 2 | 2 | 15 | 5,424 | 2,400 | |
| All aged 16 and over | 22 | 1 | 2 | 24 | 19,996 | 7,240 | |

- 1 Results for 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).
- 2 Figures for cigarettes include all smokers of both manufactured and hand-rolled cigarettes.
- 3 Young people aged 16-17 were not asked about cigar or pipe-smoking.
- 4 The percentages for cigarettes, pipes and cigars add to more than the percentage for all smokers because some people smoked more than one type of product.

Table 1.25 Age started smoking regularly by sex: 1992 to 2007

| <i>Persons aged 16 and over who had ever smoked regularly</i> | | | | | | | | | | <i>Great Britain</i> | | | | | | |
|---|-------------------|------|------|------|-----------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------|-------|-------|
| Age started smoking regularly | <u>Unweighted</u> | | | | <u>Weighted</u> | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 1992 | 1994 | 1996 | 1998 | 1998 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 ¹ | 2006 ² | 2007 ² | | | |
| | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | | | |
| Men | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Under 16 | 40 | 41 | 41 | 43 | 42 | 43 | 42 | 42 | 42 | 42 | 41 | 41 | 41 | | | |
| 16-17 | 27 | 27 | 27 | 26 | 26 | 27 | 26 | 28 | 26 | 26 | 26 | 26 | 26 | | | |
| 18-19 | 17 | 16 | 17 | 17 | 17 | 15 | 16 | 16 | 16 | 16 | 17 | 17 | 18 | | | |
| 20-24 | 12 | 11 | 11 | 10 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 11 | | | |
| 25 and over | 4 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 4 | | | |
| <i>Weighted base (000s) = 100%</i> | | | | | 11,146 | 11,016 | 10,608 | 10,469 | 10,431 | 10,506 | 10,194 | 9,931 | 9,919 | | | |
| <i>Unweighted sample</i> | | | | | 5,140 | 4,520 | 4,300 | 3,850 | 3,620 | 3,880 | 3,700 | 4,410 | 3,700 | 5,280 | 3,900 | 3,680 |
| Women | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Under 16 | 28 | 30 | 32 | 31 | 32 | 33 | 35 | 33 | 35 | 35 | 36 | 36 | 36 | | | |
| 16-17 | 28 | 28 | 28 | 29 | 28 | 27 | 27 | 28 | 26 | 18 | 27 | 28 | 27 | | | |
| 18-19 | 19 | 19 | 17 | 18 | 17 | 19 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 18 | 17 | 17 | 18 | | | |
| 20-24 | 15 | 13 | 13 | 14 | 14 | 12 | 12 | 13 | 13 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 13 | | | |
| 25 and over | 10 | 9 | 9 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 9 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 6 | 6 | | | |
| <i>Weighted base (000s) = 100%</i> | | | | | 10,101 | 9,663 | 10,222 | 10,067 | 9,738 | 9,591 | 9,589 | 9,404 | 9,183 | | | |
| <i>Unweighted sample</i> | | | | | 4,640 | 4,180 | 3,990 | 3,640 | 3,300 | 3,820 | 3,590 | 4,140 | 3,450 | 4,990 | 3,700 | 3,450 |
| All persons | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Under 16 | 34 | 36 | 37 | 37 | 37 | 38 | 39 | 38 | 38 | 39 | 39 | 39 | 39 | | | |
| 16-17 | 27 | 28 | 28 | 27 | 27 | 27 | 26 | 28 | 26 | 27 | 27 | 27 | 27 | | | |
| 18-19 | 18 | 18 | 17 | 18 | 17 | 17 | 17 | 17 | 17 | 17 | 17 | 17 | 18 | | | |
| 20-24 | 14 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 11 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 11 | 11 | 12 | 12 | | | |
| 25 and over | 7 | 7 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 5 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 5 | 5 | | | |
| <i>Weighted base (000s) = 100%</i> | | | | | 21,247 | 20,679 | 20,830 | 20,537 | 20,169 | 20,097 | 19,783 | 19,337 | 19,103 | | | |
| <i>Unweighted sample</i> | | | | | 9,780 | 8,700 | 8,290 | 7,500 | 6,960 | 7,700 | 7,280 | 8,550 | 7,150 | 10,260 | 7,640 | 7,130 |

- 1 2005 data includes last quarter of 2004/5 data due to survey change from financial year to calendar year.
- 2 Results for 2006 & 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).

Table 1.26 Age started smoking regularly by sex and socio-economic classification based on the current or last job of the household reference person

| <i>Persons aged 16 and over who had ever smoked regularly</i> | | <i>Great Britain: 2007¹</i> | | | |
|---|--|--|------------------|---------------|--|
| Age started smoking regularly | Socio-economic classification of household reference person ² | | | Total | |
| | Managerial & professional | Intermediate | Routine & manual | | |
| | % | % | % | % | |
| Men | | | | | |
| Under 16 | 33 | 39 | 49 | 41 | |
| 16-17 | 29 | 26 | 23 | 26 | |
| 18-19 | 21 | 18 | 15 | 18 | |
| 20-24 | 12 | 10 | 9 | 11 | |
| 25 and over | 5 | 6 | 4 | 5 | |
| <i>Weighted base (000s) = 100%</i> | <i>3,724</i> | <i>1,765</i> | <i>4,037</i> | <i>9,884</i> | |
| <i>Unweighted sample</i> | <i>1,450</i> | <i>660</i> | <i>1,450</i> | <i>3,660</i> | |
| | % | % | % | % | |
| Women | | | | | |
| Under 16 | 28 | 34 | 42 | 36 | |
| 16-17 | 30 | 26 | 27 | 27 | |
| 18-19 | 22 | 18 | 15 | 18 | |
| 20-24 | 14 | 15 | 11 | 13 | |
| 25 and over | 6 | 7 | 6 | 6 | |
| <i>Weighted base (000s) = 100%</i> | <i>3,250</i> | <i>1,707</i> | <i>3,751</i> | <i>9,113</i> | |
| <i>Unweighted sample</i> | <i>1,260</i> | <i>630</i> | <i>1,400</i> | <i>3,430</i> | |
| | % | % | % | % | |
| All persons | | | | | |
| Under 16 | 30 | 37 | 45 | 38 | |
| 16-17 | 29 | 26 | 25 | 27 | |
| 18-19 | 22 | 18 | 15 | 18 | |
| 20-24 | 13 | 12 | 10 | 12 | |
| 25 and over | 5 | 7 | 5 | 5 | |
| <i>Weighted base (000s) = 100%</i> | <i>6,974</i> | <i>3,471</i> | <i>7,788</i> | <i>18,997</i> | |
| <i>Unweighted sample</i> | <i>2,720</i> | <i>1,290</i> | <i>2,850</i> | <i>7,090</i> | |

1 Results for 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).

2 Respondents whose household reference person was a full time student, had an inadequately described occupation, had never worked or was long-term unemployed are not shown as separate categories but are included in the total.

Table 1.27 Age started smoking regularly by sex, whether current smoker and if so, cigarettes smoked a day

| <i>Persons aged 16 and over who had ever smoked regularly</i> | | | | | <i>Great Britain: 2007¹</i> | |
|---|------------------|--------------|--------------|----------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| Age started smoking regularly | Current smoker | | | All current smokers ² | Ex-regular smoker | All who have ever smoked regularly |
| | 20 or more a day | 10-19 a day | 0-9 a day | | | |
| | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| Men | | | | | | |
| Under 16 | 50 | 46 | 36 | 44 | 38 | 41 |
| 16-17 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 25 | 27 | 26 |
| 18-19 | 14 | 15 | 17 | 15 | 20 | 18 |
| 20-24 | 8 | 10 | 15 | 11 | 10 | 11 |
| 25 and over | 5 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 4 |
| <i>Weighted base (000s) = 100%</i> | <i>1,292</i> | <i>1,841</i> | <i>1,225</i> | <i>4,367</i> | <i>5,552</i> | <i>9,919</i> |
| <i>Unweighted sample</i> | <i>450</i> | <i>610</i> | <i>390</i> | <i>1,450</i> | <i>2,230</i> | <i>3,680</i> |
| | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| Women | | | | | | |
| Under 16 | 50 | 44 | 34 | 43 | 30 | 36 |
| 16-17 | 25 | 25 | 25 | 25 | 30 | 27 |
| 18-19 | 11 | 16 | 20 | 16 | 19 | 18 |
| 20-24 | 8 | 10 | 14 | 11 | 14 | 13 |
| 25 and over | 6 | 5 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 |
| <i>Weighted base (000s) = 100%</i> | <i>1,057</i> | <i>2,005</i> | <i>1,351</i> | <i>4,424</i> | <i>4,759</i> | <i>9,183</i> |
| <i>Unweighted sample</i> | <i>390</i> | <i>700</i> | <i>500</i> | <i>1,590</i> | <i>1,860</i> | <i>3,450</i> |
| | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| All persons | | | | | | |
| Under 16 | 50 | 45 | 35 | 43 | 34 | 39 |
| 16-17 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 25 | 28 | 27 |
| 18-19 | 13 | 16 | 19 | 16 | 20 | 18 |
| 20-24 | 8 | 10 | 15 | 11 | 12 | 12 |
| 25 and over | 5 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| <i>Weighted base (000s) = 100%</i> | <i>2,348</i> | <i>3,846</i> | <i>2,576</i> | <i>8,791</i> | <i>10,312</i> | <i>19,103</i> |
| <i>Unweighted sample</i> | <i>830</i> | <i>1,310</i> | <i>890</i> | <i>3,040</i> | <i>4,090</i> | <i>7,130</i> |

1 Results for 2006 & 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).

2 Includes a few smokers who did not say how many cigarettes a day they smoked.

Table 1.28 Proportion of smokers who would like to give up smoking altogether, by sex and number of cigarettes smoked per day: 1992 to 2007

| <i>Current cigarette smokers aged 16 and over</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | <i>Great Britain</i> | |
|---|------------|------|------|------|----------|------|------|------|------|------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| Number of cigarettes smoked a day | Unweighted | | | | Weighted | | | | | | | | | Weighted base 2007 (000s) = 100% ³ | Unweighted sample ³ 2007 |
| | 1992 | 1994 | 1996 | 1998 | 1998 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 ¹ | 2006 ² | 2007 ² | | |
| Percentage who would like to stop altogether | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Men | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 20 or more | 68 | 70 | 66 | 69 | 69 | 74 | 70 | 68 | 64 | 67 | 66 | 67 | 62 | 1,301 | 450 |
| 10-19 | 70 | 72 | 69 | 73 | 73 | 76 | 71 | 71 | 67 | 68 | 68 | 68 | 66 | 1,864 | 620 |
| 0-9 | 58 | 61 | 62 | 62 | 62 | 64 | 62 | 62 | 61 | 64 | 68 | 65 | 69 | 1,250 | 400 |
| All smokers ⁴ | 66 | 69 | 66 | 69 | 69 | 72 | 68 | 68 | 64 | 67 | 68 | 67 | 66 | 4,424 | 1,470 |
| Women | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 20 or more | 70 | 69 | 69 | 68 | 68 | 73 | 66 | 67 | 64 | 70 | 67 | 67 | 61 | 1,060 | 390 |
| 10-19 | 72 | 71 | 70 | 75 | 75 | 76 | 67 | 71 | 71 | 70 | 70 | 72 | 68 | 2,005 | 700 |
| 0-9 | 58 | 62 | 59 | 65 | 65 | 63 | 60 | 67 | 66 | 67 | 67 | 69 | 66 | 1,372 | 500 |
| All smokers ⁴ | 68 | 68 | 67 | 70 | 70 | 71 | 65 | 69 | 67 | 69 | 68 | 70 | 66 | 4,448 | 1,600 |
| Total | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 20 or more | 69 | 70 | 68 | 69 | 69 | 74 | 68 | 68 | 64 | 68 | 67 | 67 | 62 | 2,361 | 840 |
| 10-19 | 71 | 71 | 70 | 74 | 74 | 76 | 69 | 71 | 69 | 69 | 69 | 70 | 67 | 3,869 | 1,320 |
| 0-9 | 58 | 61 | 60 | 64 | 64 | 63 | 61 | 65 | 64 | 66 | 68 | 67 | 67 | 2,622 | 900 |
| All smokers ⁴ | 67 | 68 | 67 | 69 | 69 | 72 | 66 | 68 | 66 | 68 | 68 | 68 | 66 | 8,872 | 3,070 |

1 2005 data includes last quarter of 2004/5 data due to survey change from financial year to calendar year

2 Results for 2006 & 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).

3 Trend tables show unweighted and weighted figures for 1998 to give an indication of the effect of the weighting. Bases for earlier years can be found in GHS reports for each year.

4 Includes a few smokers who did not say how many cigarettes a day they smoked.

Table 1.29 Proportion of smokers who would find it difficult to go without smoking for a day, by sex and number of cigarettes smoked per day: 1992 to 2007

| <i>Current cigarette smokers aged 16 and over</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | <i>Great Britain</i> | |
|---|------------|------|------|------|----------|------|------|------|------|------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| Number of cigarettes smoked a day | Unweighted | | | | Weighted | | | | | | | | | Weighted base 2007 (000s) = 100% ³ | Unweighted sample ³ 2007 |
| | 1992 | 1994 | 1996 | 1998 | 1998 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 ¹ | 2006 ² | 2007 ² | | |
| Percentage who would find it difficult not to smoke for a day | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Men | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 20 or more | 76 | 78 | 78 | 78 | 78 | 78 | 74 | 77 | 78 | 77 | 77 | 80 | 81 | 1,296 | 450 |
| 10-19 | 54 | 57 | 54 | 54 | 54 | 56 | 55 | 57 | 53 | 57 | 60 | 64 | 63 | 1,854 | 610 |
| 0-9 | 20 | 17 | 20 | 25 | 23 | 14 | 21 | 23 | 19 | 16 | 23 | 24 | 26 | 1,250 | 400 |
| All smokers ⁴ | 55 | 56 | 56 | 56 | 56 | 53 | 52 | 56 | 53 | 52 | 55 | 59 | 58 | 4,410 | 1,460 |
| Women | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 20 or more | 86 | 86 | 87 | 87 | 86 | 88 | 87 | 86 | 83 | 82 | 84 | 84 | 90 | 1,058 | 390 |
| 10-19 | 68 | 68 | 66 | 66 | 65 | 67 | 65 | 66 | 64 | 67 | 65 | 70 | 65 | 2,001 | 700 |
| 0-9 | 23 | 20 | 24 | 24 | 25 | 22 | 24 | 21 | 22 | 21 | 27 | 27 | 26 | 1,372 | 500 |
| All smokers ⁴ | 61 | 60 | 61 | 59 | 59 | 58 | 58 | 59 | 56 | 57 | 58 | 60 | 59 | 4,442 | 1,600 |
| Total | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 20 or more | 80 | 82 | 83 | 82 | 82 | 82 | 80 | 81 | 80 | 79 | 80 | 82 | 85 | 2,354 | 830 |
| 10-19 | 61 | 63 | 60 | 61 | 60 | 62 | 61 | 62 | 58 | 62 | 63 | 67 | 64 | 3,855 | 1,320 |
| 0-9 | 21 | 19 | 23 | 24 | 24 | 18 | 22 | 22 | 21 | 19 | 25 | 26 | 26 | 2,622 | 900 |
| All smokers ⁴ | 58 | 59 | 58 | 58 | 57 | 56 | 55 | 57 | 55 | 55 | 56 | 59 | 58 | 8,852 | 3,060 |

1 2005 data includes last quarter of 2004/5 data due to survey change from financial year to calendar year.

2 Results for 2006 & 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).

3 Trend tables show unweighted and weighted figures for 1998 to give an indication of the effect of the weighting. Bases for earlier years can be found in GHS reports for each year.

4 Includes a few smokers who did not say how many cigarettes a day they smoked.

Table 1.30 Proportion of smokers who have their first cigarette within five minutes of waking, by sex and number of cigarettes smoked per day: 1992 to 2007

| <i>Current cigarette smokers aged 16 and over</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | <i>Great Britain</i> | |
|---|------------|------|------|------|----------|------|------|------|------|------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| Number of cigarettes smoked a day | Unweighted | | | | Weighted | | | | | | | | | Weighted base 2007 (000s) =100% ³ | Unweighted sample ³ 2007 |
| | 1992 | 1994 | 1996 | 1998 | 1998 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 ¹ | 2006 ² | 2007 ² | | |
| Percentage smoking within 5 minutes of waking | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Men | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 20 or more | 29 | 31 | 29 | 31 | 32 | 30 | 30 | 31 | 31 | 34 | 34 | 35 | 36 | 1,301 | 450 |
| 10-19 | 10 | 13 | 9 | 11 | 11 | 13 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 13 | 15 | 13 | 13 | 1,864 | 620 |
| 0-9 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1,240 | 400 |
| All smokers ⁴ | 16 | 18 | 16 | 16 | 17 | 16 | 15 | 16 | 16 | 17 | 17 | 18 | 17 | 4,414 | 1,460 |
| Women | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 20 or more | 29 | 34 | 32 | 31 | 31 | 32 | 35 | 31 | 31 | 33 | 31 | 37 | 34 | 1,060 | 390 |
| 10-19 | 10 | 9 | 11 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 15 | 11 | 12 | 16 | 2,005 | 700 |
| 0-9 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1,369 | 500 |
| All smokers ⁴ | 14 | 14 | 15 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 15 | 14 | 14 | 16 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 4,445 | 1,600 |
| Total | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 20 or more | 29 | 33 | 30 | 31 | 31 | 31 | 32 | 31 | 31 | 34 | 33 | 36 | 35 | 2,361 | 840 |
| 10-19 | 10 | 11 | 10 | 12 | 12 | 13 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 14 | 13 | 12 | 14 | 3,869 | 1,320 |
| 0-9 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2,609 | 900 |
| All smokers ⁴ | 15 | 16 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 17 | 16 | 16 | 17 | 8,859 | 3,060 |

1 2005 data includes last quarter of 2004/5 data due to survey change from financial year to calendar year.

2 Results for 2006 & 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).

3 Trend tables show unweighted and weighted figures for 1998 to give an indication of the effect of the weighting. Bases for earlier years can be found in GHS reports for each year.

4 Includes a few smokers who did not say how many cigarettes a day they smoked.

Table 1.31 Proportion of smokers who would like to give up smoking altogether, by sex, socio-economic classification of household reference person, and number of cigarettes smoked a day

| <i>Current cigarette smokers aged 16 and over</i> | | <i>Great Britain: 2007¹</i> | | |
|---|--|--|------------------|-------|
| Number of cigarettes smoked a day | Socio-economic classification ² | | | Total |
| | Managerial & professional | Intermediate | Routine & manual | |
| Percentage who would like to stop altogether | | | | |
| Men | | | | |
| 20 or more | 60 | 65 | 61 | 62 |
| 10-19 | 73 | 72 | 61 | 66 |
| 0-9 | 70 | 75 | 65 | 69 |
| All smokers ³ | 69 | 70 | 62 | 66 |
| Women | | | | |
| 20 or more | 63 | 72 | 57 | 61 |
| 10-19 | 72 | 67 | 67 | 68 |
| 0-9 | 73 | 62 | 61 | 66 |
| All smokers ³ | 71 | 66 | 63 | 66 |
| Total | | | | |
| 20 or more | 61 | 69 | 59 | 62 |
| 10-19 | 73 | 69 | 64 | 67 |
| 0-9 | 72 | 68 | 63 | 67 |
| All smokers ³ | 70 | 68 | 62 | 66 |
| <i>Weighted base (000s)=100%</i> | | | | |
| <i>Men</i> | | | | |
| 20 or more | 317 | 246 | 656 | 1,301 |
| 10-19 | 580 | 294 | 890 | 1,864 |
| 0-9 | 487 | 215 | 446 | 1,250 |
| All smokers ³ | 1,391 | 756 | 1,995 | 4,424 |
| <i>Women</i> | | | | |
| 20 or more | 265 | 215 | 503 | 1,060 |
| 10-19 | 497 | 341 | 1,042 | 2,005 |
| 0-9 | 543 | 235 | 485 | 1,372 |
| All smokers ³ | 1,305 | 798 | 2,034 | 4,448 |
| <i>Total</i> | | | | |
| 20 or more | 583 | 461 | 1,158 | 2,361 |
| 10-19 | 1,076 | 635 | 1,932 | 3,869 |
| 0-9 | 1,030 | 450 | 931 | 2,622 |
| All smokers ³ | 2,696 | 1,554 | 4,029 | 8,872 |
| <i>Unweighted sample</i> | | | | |
| <i>Men</i> | | | | |
| 20 or more | 110 | 80 | 230 | 450 |
| 10-19 | 200 | 100 | 290 | 620 |
| 0-9 | 160 | 70 | 140 | 400 |
| All smokers ³ | 470 | 260 | 660 | 1,470 |
| <i>Women</i> | | | | |
| 20 or more | 100 | 80 | 190 | 390 |
| 10-19 | 180 | 120 | 370 | 700 |
| 0-9 | 200 | 80 | 180 | 500 |
| All smokers ³ | 480 | 280 | 730 | 1,600 |
| <i>Total</i> | | | | |
| 20 or more | 210 | 160 | 420 | 840 |
| 10-19 | 380 | 220 | 660 | 1,320 |
| 0-9 | 360 | 160 | 320 | 900 |
| All smokers ³ | 950 | 540 | 1,400 | 3,060 |

1 Results for 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).

2 Respondents whose household reference person was a full time student, had an inadequately described occupation, had never worked or was long-term unemployed are not shown as separate categories but are included in the total.

3 Includes a few smokers who did not say how many cigarettes a day they smoked.

Shaded figures indicate the estimates are unreliable and any analysis using these figures may be invalid. Any use of these shaded figures must be accompanied by this disclaimer.

Table 1.32 Proportion of smokers who would find it difficult to go without smoking for a day, by sex, socio-economic classification of household reference person, and number of cigarettes smoked a day

| <i>Current cigarette smokers aged 16 and over</i> | | <i>Great Britain: 2007¹</i> | | | |
|--|--|--|------------------|-------|--|
| Number of cigarettes smoked a day | Socio-economic classification ² | | | Total | |
| | Managerial & professional | Intermediate | Routine & manual | | |
| Percentage who would find it difficult to stop for a day | | | | | |
| Men | | | | | |
| 20 or more | 80 | 78 | 81 | 81 | |
| 10-19 | 65 | 61 | 65 | 63 | |
| 0-9 | 22 | 26 | 28 | 26 | |
| All smokers ³ | 53 | 56 | 62 | 58 | |
| Women | | | | | |
| 20 or more | 92 | 90 | 90 | 90 | |
| 10-19 | 64 | 62 | 67 | 65 | |
| 0-9 | 22 | 31 | 30 | 26 | |
| All smokers ³ | 52 | 60 | 64 | 59 | |
| Total | | | | | |
| 20 or more | 86 | 84 | 85 | 85 | |
| 10-19 | 64 | 61 | 66 | 64 | |
| 0-9 | 22 | 29 | 29 | 26 | |
| All smokers ³ | 53 | 58 | 63 | 58 | |
| <i>Weighted base (000s)=100%</i> | | | | | |
| <i>Men</i> | | | | | |
| 20 or more | 317 | 243 | 654 | 1,296 | |
| 10-19 | 580 | 292 | 883 | 1,854 | |
| 0-9 | 487 | 215 | 446 | 1,250 | |
| All smokers ³ | 1,391 | 750 | 1,987 | 4,410 | |
| <i>Women</i> | | | | | |
| 20 or more | 265 | 215 | 501 | 1,058 | |
| 10-19 | 494 | 341 | 1,040 | 2,001 | |
| 0-9 | 543 | 235 | 485 | 1,372 | |
| All smokers ³ | 1,303 | 798 | 2,030 | 4,442 | |
| <i>Total</i> | | | | | |
| 20 or more | 583 | 458 | 1,155 | 2,354 | |
| 10-19 | 1,074 | 633 | 1,924 | 3,855 | |
| 0-9 | 1,030 | 450 | 931 | 2,622 | |
| All smokers ³ | 2,694 | 1,548 | 4,017 | 8,852 | |
| <i>Unweighted sample</i> | | | | | |
| <i>Men</i> | | | | | |
| 20 or more | 110 | 80 | 230 | 450 | |
| 10-19 | 200 | 100 | 290 | 620 | |
| 0-9 | 160 | 70 | 141 | 400 | |
| All smokers ³ | 470 | 260 | 660 | 1,460 | |
| <i>Women</i> | | | | | |
| 20 or more | 100 | 80 | 180 | 390 | |
| 10-19 | 180 | 120 | 360 | 700 | |
| 0-9 | 200 | 80 | 180 | 500 | |
| All smokers ³ | 480 | 280 | 730 | 1,600 | |
| <i>Total</i> | | | | | |
| 20 or more | 210 | 160 | 410 | 830 | |
| 10-19 | 380 | 220 | 650 | 1,320 | |
| 0-9 | 360 | 160 | 320 | 900 | |
| All smokers ³ | 950 | 540 | 1,390 | 3,060 | |

1 Results for 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).

2 Respondents whose household reference person was a full time student, had an inadequately described occupation, had never worked or was long-term unemployed are not shown as separate categories but are included in the total.

3 Includes a few smokers who did not say how many cigarettes a day they smoked.

Shaded figures indicate the estimates are unreliable and any analysis using these figures may be invalid. Any use of these shaded figures must be accompanied by this disclaimer.

Table 1.33 Proportion of smokers who have their first cigarette within five minutes of waking, by sex, socio-economic classification of household reference person, and number of cigarettes smoked a day

| <i>Current cigarette smokers aged 16 and over</i> | | <i>Great Britain: 2007¹</i> | | | |
|---|--|--|------------------|-------|--|
| Number of cigarettes smoked a day | Socio-economic classification ² | | | | |
| | Managerial & professional | Intermediate | Routine & manual | Total | |
| Percentage who smoke within 5 minutes of waking | | | | | |
| Men | | | | | |
| 20 or more | 34 | 30 | 36 | 36 | |
| 10-19 | 9 | 10 | 15 | 13 | |
| 0-9 | 0 | 2 | 8 | 3 | |
| All smokers ³ | 12 | 14 | 21 | 17 | |
| Women | | | | | |
| 20 or more | 28 | 37 | 34 | 34 | |
| 10-19 | 12 | 18 | 17 | 16 | |
| 0-9 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 3 | |
| All smokers ³ | 11 | 18 | 18 | 16 | |
| Total | | | | | |
| 20 or more | 32 | 33 | 36 | 35 | |
| 10-19 | 10 | 14 | 16 | 14 | |
| 0-9 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 3 | |
| All smokers ³ | 11 | 16 | 20 | 17 | |
| <i>Weighted base (000s)=100%</i> | | | | | |
| <i>Men</i> | | | | | |
| 20 or more | 317 | 246 | 656 | 1,301 | |
| 10-19 | 580 | 294 | 890 | 1,864 | |
| 0-9 | 484 | 213 | 441 | 1,240 | |
| All smokers ³ | 1,388 | 754 | 1,991 | 4,414 | |
| <i>Women</i> | | | | | |
| 20 or more | 265 | 215 | 503 | 1,060 | |
| 10-19 | 497 | 341 | 1,042 | 2,005 | |
| 0-9 | 543 | 235 | 482 | 1,369 | |
| All smokers ³ | 1,305 | 798 | 2,031 | 4,445 | |
| <i>Total</i> | | | | | |
| 20 or more | 583 | 461 | 1,158 | 2,361 | |
| 10-19 | 1,076 | 635 | 1,932 | 3,869 | |
| 0-9 | 1,027 | 448 | 924 | 2,609 | |
| All smokers ³ | 2,693 | 1,552 | 4,022 | 8,859 | |
| <i>Unweighted sample</i> | | | | | |
| <i>Men</i> | | | | | |
| 20 or more | 110 | 80 | 230 | 450 | |
| 10-19 | 200 | 100 | 290 | 620 | |
| 0-9 | 160 | 70 | 140 | 400 | |
| All smokers ³ | 470 | 260 | 660 | 1,460 | |
| <i>Women</i> | | | | | |
| 20 or more | 100 | 80 | 190 | 390 | |
| 10-19 | 180 | 120 | 370 | 700 | |
| 0-9 | 200 | 80 | 180 | 500 | |
| All smokers ³ | 480 | 280 | 730 | 1,600 | |
| <i>Total</i> | | | | | |
| 20 or more | 210 | 160 | 420 | 840 | |
| 10-19 | 380 | 220 | 660 | 1,320 | |
| 0-9 | 360 | 160 | 320 | 900 | |
| All smokers ³ | 950 | 540 | 1,390 | 3,060 | |

1 Results for 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).

2 Respondents whose household reference person was a full time student, had an inadequately described occupation, had never worked or was long-term unemployed are not shown as separate categories but are included in the total.

3 Includes a few smokers who did not say how many cigarettes a day they smoked.

Shaded figures indicate the estimates are unreliable and any analysis using these figures may be invalid. Any use of these shaded figures must be accompanied by this disclaimer.

2 Drinking

Questions about drinking alcohol were included in the General Household Survey every two years from 1978 to 1998. Following the review of the GHS, the questions about drinking in the last seven days form part of the continuous survey, and have been included every year from 2000 onwards. Questions designed to measure average weekly alcohol consumption were included from 2000 to 2002 and again in 2005 and 2006 but were not included in the 2007 questionnaire. Before 1988 questions about drinking were asked only of those aged 18 and over, but since then respondents aged 16 and 17 have answered the questions using a self-completion questionnaire.

This report presents information on the frequency of drinking alcohol and the amounts consumed in the week before the interview took place. It also presents data on the association between consumption of alcohol and characteristics of individuals such as sex, age, socio-economic classification, and region.

Measuring alcohol consumption

Obtaining reliable information about drinking behaviour is difficult, and social surveys consistently record lower levels of consumption than would be expected from data on alcohol sales¹. This is partly because people may consciously or unconsciously under-estimate how much alcohol they consume. Drinking at home is particularly likely to be under-estimated because the quantities consumed are not measured and are likely to be larger than those dispensed in licensed premises.

There are different methods for obtaining survey information on drinking behaviour. One approach is to ask people to recall all episodes of drinking during a set period². However, this is time-consuming and is not suitable for the GHS, where drinking is only one of a number of subjects covered. In 2007 the GHS asked about the maximum amount drunk on any one day in the previous seven days.

Maximum daily amount drunk last week

These questions have been included in the GHS since 1998, following the publication in 1995 of an inter-departmental review of the effects of drinking³. This concluded that it was more appropriate to set benchmarks for daily than for weekly consumption of alcohol, partly because of concern about the health and social risks associated with single episodes of intoxication. The report considered that regular consumption of between three and four units⁴ a day for men and two to three units a day for women does not carry a significant health risk, but that consistently drinking above these levels is not advised.

The government's advice on sensible drinking is now based on these daily benchmarks, and GHS data are used to monitor the extent to which people are following the advice given. Respondents are asked on how many days they drank alcohol during the previous week. They are then asked how much of each of six different types of drink (normal strength beer, strong beer, wine, spirits, fortified wines and alcopops) they drank on their heaviest drinking day during the previous week. These amounts are converted to units of alcohol and added to give an estimate of the number of units the respondent consumed on that day.

The conversion of volumes of alcoholic drinks to units of alcohol is based on assumptions about the size of a given measure (e.g. a glass of wine) and the alcohol

content of the type of drink (i.e. the percentage of alcohol by volume or ABV). In recent years there have been changes to both of these factors and these have been reflected in revisions to the conversion method which was first used on the 2006 data.

The survey does not ask about the specific ABV of every alcoholic drink consumed but assumes an average for each type of drink. The revised method has changed the number of units assumed to be in drinks in the 'normal strength beer, lager and cider' and 'strong beer, lager and cider' categories but the main impact was on drinks in the 'wine' category.

The revised method has had a large impact on the estimates of units of alcohol consumed from wine because it changed both the assumed ABV of wine (from 9% to 12%) and the size of a glass of wine. Wine is sold on licensed premises and consumed at home in a variety of glass sizes. To take account of this the GHS, from 2008 onwards, includes a question about wine glass size. In this report on 2007 data and in the previous report on 2006 data an average size of 170ml was assumed. The changes in both glass size and ABV of wine have resulted in the number of units assumed to be in a 'glass' of wine doubling from 1 to 2 units. The changes in conversion factors are discussed in detail in a paper in the National Statistics Methodology series⁵.

The impact of the change in methodology can be seen in the 2006 data for which figures using both the original and revised methods were produced⁶. All figures produced from 2007 onwards will use the revised method of converting volumes to units of alcohol. There are currently only figures for 2006 and 2007 using this method and so interpretation of trend data will be limited.

Trends in last week's drinking

There has been a slight fall in the proportions of men and women who say that they had an alcoholic drink in the previous week compared to four years ago. Table 2.1 shows that following a period of little change between 1998 and 2003, the figures fell from 75% of men and 60% of women in 2003 to 72% and 57% in 2005 but since then the figures have been effectively constant. In 2007, 72% of men and 57% of women reported having an alcoholic drink in the last seven days.

Similarly, following a period of stability, there was a fall in the proportions of both men and women exceeding the daily benchmarks between 2003 and 2005 but they have remained at approximately their 2005 levels since then. The figures produced using the original method of converting to units show little change from 2005 to 2006. This stability is continued in the figures produced using the revised method. The proportion of men exceeding 4 units on their heaviest drinking day was 40 per cent in 2006 and this is virtually unchanged at 41 per cent in 2007. The proportions for women exceeding 3 units were 33 per cent in 2006 and 34 per cent in 2007.

The figures for heavy drinking follow a similar pattern. There was little change between 2005 and 2007 in the proportions of men and women drinking heavily (more than 8 units, and 6 units respectively) on at least one day in the previous week. The figures produced using the original method of calculating units show little change between 2005 and 2006. This stability is continued in the figures produced using the revised method. The proportion of men reporting heavy drinking was 23 per cent in 2006 and 24 per cent in 2007. The proportion of women reporting heavy drinking was 15 per cent in both years.

There is considerable fluctuation in the trends within some age groups which makes it difficult to be confident about the overall pattern but there are some groups where the patterns seem clearer. Since 2002 there is a clear downward trend in the proportion of young women aged 16 to 24 drinking heavily. The estimate has fallen each year from 28 per cent in 2002 to 20 per cent in 2006. Although the changes from one year to the next are not statistically significant the changes over several years are significant. This pattern is continued into 2007. The figures for 2006 and 2007 using the updated method are 25 per cent and 24 per cent.

Tables 2.1- 2.2

Last week's drinking in 2007

Frequency of drinking during the last week

Patterns of drinking behaviour in 2007 were broadly the same as those described in earlier GHS reports. Men were more likely than women to have had an alcoholic drink in the previous week: 72 per cent of men and 57 per cent of women had had a drink on at least one day during the previous week. Men also drank on more days of the week than women. More than one in five men (22 per cent) compared with just over one in ten women (12 per cent) had drunk on at least five of the preceding seven days. In particular, men were much more likely than women to have drunk alcohol every day during the previous week (13 per cent compared with 7 per cent).

The proportions drinking last week also varied between age groups. Those in the youngest and oldest age groups (16 to 24 and 65 and over) were less likely than those in the middle age range to report drinking alcohol during the previous week. The proportion who had drunk alcohol in the previous week was particularly low among women aged 65 and over, 45 per cent of whom had done so, compared with 61 per cent of women aged 25 to 64.

The age group with the highest proportion of people who didn't drink in the last week was the 65 and over group (45 per cent). This is also the group with the highest figure for proportion of people who drank every day (16 per cent). The proportion of people who drink every day rises as age group rises. For example, 3 per cent of men and 2 per cent of women aged 16 to 24 had drunk every day during the previous week, compared with 22 per cent of men and 12 per cent of women aged 65 and over.

Table 2.3

Maximum daily amount drunk last week

Two measures of daily consumption are shown in the tables. The first is the proportion exceeding the recommended daily benchmarks (men drinking more than four units and women drinking more than three units in one day). The second measure is intended to indicate heavy drinking that would be likely to lead to intoxication and is set at more than eight units on one day for men and more than six units for women.

The proportion of people who exceeded the daily benchmarks on at least one day during the previous week was higher for men (41 per cent) than it was for women (34 per cent). The proportion drinking heavily was also greater for men (24 per cent) than for women (15 per cent).

It was noted earlier that older people drink more frequently than younger people. However, among both men and women, those aged 65 and over were significantly less likely than respondents in other age groups to have exceeded the recommended number of daily units on at least one day. For example, 23% of men over 65 exceeded four units on at least one day during the previous week. The corresponding figures for the younger three age-bands were 44%, 48% and 44% (16-24, 25-44 and 45-64 respectively). Among women, 14 per cent of those aged 65 and over exceeded three units on at least one day. The corresponding figures for the younger three age-bands were 40%, 43% and 36% (16-24, 25-44 and 45-64 respectively).

Similar patterns were evident for heavy drinking: 32 per cent of men aged 16 to 24, but only 8 per cent of those aged 65 and over, had drunk more than eight units on at least one day during the previous week. Among young women aged 16 to 24, 24 per cent had drunk heavily on at least one day during the preceding week, compared with only 3 per cent of women in the oldest age group.

Table 2.4

Drinking last week and age, sex, and marital status

Analysis of alcohol consumption by marital status is complicated by the strong association between marital status and age. Single people tend, on average, to be younger than married people.

Overall it appears that married people tend to drink more often than single people (20 per cent of married people and 10 per cent of single people drank on 5 or more days in the previous week). This may be largely due to the fact that older people tend to drink more often than younger people. A greater proportion of single people than married people drink heavily (26 per cent and 19 per cent respectively). Again this mirrors the finding that a larger proportion of younger people than older people drink heavily.

In the age group 16 to 44 years there were no significant differences between married and single men or between married and single women in the proportions exceeding the daily benchmarks for safe drinking. In the 45 years and over group, however, a greater proportion of married men than of single men exceeded four units on their heaviest drinking day (38 per cent and 29 per cent). Similarly, a greater proportion of married women than of single women in that age group exceeded three units on their heaviest drinking day (32 per cent and 22 per cent).

Table 2.5

Drinking last week and socio-economic characteristics

Households where the household reference person (HRP) was classified as 'managerial and professional' had the highest proportions of both men and women who had an alcoholic drink in the last seven days (80 per cent and 68 per cent), while men and women in 'routine and manual' households had the lowest (66 per cent and 45 per cent). There was a similar pattern in the proportions drinking on five or more days in the previous week. For example, 22 per cent of people in 'managerial and professional' households had an alcoholic drink on five or more days in the previous week. In households where the reference person was in an occupation in the 'routine and manual' classification, this proportion was much lower, at 11 per cent.

Variations in amounts drunk were also marked, particularly for women. Women in large employer/higher managerial households were much more likely than those in the routine group to have drunk more than the recommended three units on any one day (49 per cent compared with 24 per cent), and also more likely to have

drunk heavily on at least one day in the previous week (21 per cent compared with 11 per cent). A similar but less pronounced pattern is seen for men. As with women 49 per cent of men in large employer/higher managerial households exceeded the daily benchmark (4 units for men). In the routine group this falls to 36 per cent. Men in large employer/higher managerial households were also more likely to have drunk heavily on at least one day in the previous week than those in the routine group (28 per cent compared with 21 per cent).

Overall the proportion of people exceeding the daily benchmark was greater in managerial and professional households (43 per cent) than in routine and manual households (31 per cent) and the proportion drinking heavily and was also greater in managerial and professional households (22 per cent) than in routine and manual households (17 per cent).

Tables 2.6-2.7

Drinking last week and household income

As the level of gross weekly household income rises, the proportion of people who drank alcohol in the previous week and the proportion drinking on five or more days also rise. In households with a gross weekly income of over £1,000, 78 per cent drank in the previous week and 21 per cent drank on five or more days compared to 47 per cent and 13 per cent in households with a gross weekly income of under £200.

The proportions of people exceeding the daily benchmark and of people drinking heavily also rise as gross weekly household income rises. In households with a gross weekly income of over £400, a much higher proportion of people drink heavily than in households with an income of less than £400. In households with a gross weekly income of over £1,000, for example, 54 per cent of men drank more than 4 units and 33 per cent drank more than 8 units on at least one day in the previous week. In households with an income of under £200 the figures were 27 per cent and 16 per cent respectively. The difference for women was even more marked. In households with income in excess of £1000 per week, 47 per cent of women exceeded 3 units and 21 per cent exceeded 6 units on their heaviest drinking day. This falls to 18 and 7 per cent in households with income of £200 or less per week.

Tables 2.8-2.9

Drinking last week, economic activity status and earnings from employment

Variations in alcohol consumption by economic status reflect differences in both the income and age profiles of the groups. Among men aged 16 to 64, those in employment were most likely to have drunk alcohol during the previous week - 78 per cent had done so compared with 59 per cent of the unemployed and 56 per cent of those who were economically inactive. Working men were more likely than unemployed and economically inactive men to have drunk more than 4 units on one day - 49 per cent, compared with 38 per cent and 33 per cent respectively. Working men were also more likely than economically inactive men to have drunk more than 8 units on one day - 30 per cent compared with 20 per cent. As noted above, lower levels of drinking among economically inactive men are probably due in part to the large proportion of this group who are aged 60 to 64.

Among women aged 16 to 64, 66 per cent of those who were working, 54 per cent of those who were unemployed, and 48 per cent of those who were economically inactive had drunk alcohol in the previous week. Working women were more likely than the economically inactive to have drunk more than 3 units on one day - 44 per

cent, compared with 29 per cent. Working women were also more likely than the economically inactive to have drunk more than 6 units on one day - 21 per cent, compared with 12 per cent.

Among those aged 16-64 and working full time, variations in the frequency of drinking in relation to earnings from employment showed a similar pattern of association as that with household income. Men and women who were high earners were more likely than the lower paid both to have drunk alcohol at all and to have drunk on five or more days. For example, among full-time workers aged 16 to 64 who were earning more than £800 per week, 26 per cent had drunk on five or more days in the previous week, compared with 20 per cent of those earning £200 or less per week.

High earners are similarly more likely to exceed the daily drinking guidelines than low earners. For example, 57 per cent of adults earning over £800 per week exceeded the benchmark compared to 45 per cent of those earning £200.01 to £300 per week. The relationship between earnings and heavy drinking, however, is less clear, especially for men. The figures do suggest, however, that there is more heavy drinking among adults earning over £600 per week (33 per cent) than among those earning between £200.01 and £400 per week (26 per cent).

Tables 2.10-2.13

Regional variation in drinking last week

Care should be taken in interpreting the results for regional variation in any one year because sample sizes in some regions are small, making them subject to relatively high levels of sampling error.

In 2007, men and women in Scotland were less likely to have drunk on at least five days in the previous week than those living in England or Wales (15 per cent compared with 23 per cent and 21 per cent respectively for men; 8 per cent compared with 13 per cent and 12 per cent for women). Men in Scotland were no less likely to have drunk more than the recommended maximum of four units or to have drunk heavily than those in England and Wales. The proportion of women drinking heavily was lower in Scotland (12 per cent) than it was in England (16 per cent).

Looking at the English regions, the daily benchmarks were most likely to be exceeded in the North West (50 per cent of men and 41 per cent of women) and Yorkshire and the Humber (45 per cent and 39 per cent respectively). The lowest proportions doing so were in the West Midlands, where 36 per cent of men had drunk more than four units, and 28 per cent of women had drunk more than three units.

The same broad pattern of regional variation in daily drinking has been evident since these questions were first included in 1998. As noted above, however, sample sizes in some regions are small and this can lead to fluctuations in results from year to year which may not be due to real differences in the population from which the sample is drawn.

Tables 2.14-2.15

Notes and references

- 1 *Safe. Sensible. Social. The next steps in the National Alcohol Strategy.* (Department of Health 2007).
www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/publications/PublicationsPolicyandGuidance/DH_075218
- 2 Goddard E. *Obtaining information about drinking through surveys of the general population.* National Statistics Methodology Series NSM 24 (ONS 2001)
- 3 *Sensible drinking: the report of an inter-departmental group.* (Department of Health 1995).
- 4 A unit of alcohol is defined as 10ml of pure ethanol. This is equivalent to a standard measure of spirits (25ml at 40% ABV) or half a pint of standard strength beer (284ml at 3.5% ABV)
- 5 Goddard E *Estimating alcohol consumption from survey data: updated method of converting volumes to units* National Statistics Methodology Series NSM 37 (ONS 2007), <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/statbase/product.asp?vlnk=15067>
- 6 Goddard E *Smoking and drinking among adults, 2006.* (ONS 2008), <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/statbase/product.asp?vlnk=5756>

Alcohol consumption in Great Britain

Table 2.1 Drinking last week, by sex and age: 1998 to 2007

| <i>Persons aged 16 and over</i> | | | | | | | | | | <i>Great Britain</i> | |
|-----------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---|---|
| Drinking last week | 1998 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 ¹ | 2006 ² | 2007 ² | <i>Weighted base 2007 (000s)=100%</i> | <i>Unweighted sample 2007³</i> |
| Percentages | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Men | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Drank last week | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 16-24 | 70 | 70 | 70 | 69 | 70 | 66 | 64 | 60 | 64 | 2,591 | 760 |
| 25-44 | 79 | 78 | 78 | 77 | 77 | 76 | 74 | 73 | 74 | 7,021 | 2,180 |
| 45-64 | 77 | 77 | 76 | 76 | 78 | 76 | 77 | 76 | 76 | 6,512 | 2,550 |
| 65 and over | 65 | 67 | 68 | 67 | 69 | 68 | 66 | 67 | 67 | 3,879 | 1,760 |
| Total | 75 | 75 | 75 | 74 | 75 | 73 | 72 | 71 | 72 | 20,003 | 7,240 |
| Drank on 5 or more days last week | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 16-24 | 13 | 11 | 14 | 11 | 14 | 8 | 10 | 8 | 9 | 2,591 | 760 |
| 25-44 | 21 | 19 | 19 | 19 | 20 | 20 | 18 | 17 | 18 | 7,021 | 2,180 |
| 45-64 | 29 | 26 | 25 | 26 | 26 | 28 | 28 | 26 | 27 | 6,512 | 2,550 |
| 65 and over | 25 | 28 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 28 | 26 | 27 | 29 | 3,879 | 1,760 |
| Total | 23 | 22 | 22 | 22 | 23 | 23 | 22 | 21 | 22 | 20,003 | 7,240 |
| Women | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Drank last week | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 16-24 | 62 | 64 | 59 | 61 | 61 | 60 | 56 | 53 | 54 | 2,661 | 800 |
| 25-44 | 65 | 67 | 66 | 65 | 65 | 62 | 62 | 60 | 61 | 7,818 | 2,740 |
| 45-64 | 61 | 61 | 61 | 63 | 64 | 62 | 61 | 61 | 61 | 7,210 | 2,860 |
| 65 and over | 45 | 43 | 45 | 46 | 45 | 45 | 43 | 44 | 45 | 4,922 | 1,990 |
| Total | 59 | 60 | 59 | 59 | 60 | 58 | 57 | 56 | 57 | 22,611 | 8,380 |
| Drank on 5 or more days last week | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 16-24 | 8 | 7 | 8 | 7 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 2,661 | 800 |
| 25-44 | 12 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 10 | 9 | 11 | 9 | 11 | 7,818 | 2,740 |
| 45-64 | 15 | 15 | 17 | 17 | 17 | 18 | 17 | 15 | 15 | 7,210 | 2,860 |
| 65 and over | 14 | 14 | 15 | 15 | 16 | 16 | 14 | 15 | 15 | 4,922 | 1,990 |
| Total | 13 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 11 | 12 | 22,611 | 8,380 |

1 2005 data includes last quarter of 2004/5 data due to survey change from financial year to calendar year.

2 Results for 2006 & 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).

3 Figures for unweighted sample have been rounded independently. The sum of component items does not therefore necessarily add to the totals shown. Bases for earlier years can be found in GHS reports for each year.

Table 2.2 Maximum drunk on any one day last week by sex and age: 1998 to 2007

| <i>Persons aged 16 and over</i> | | | | | | | | | | | <i>Great Britain</i> | |
|--|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------------------|---|--|-------------------|---|---|
| Maximum daily amount | 1998 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 ¹ | 2006 ² original method | 2006 ² updated method | 2007 ² | <i>Weighted base 2007 (000s)=100%</i> | <i>Unweighted sample 2007³</i> |
| Percentages | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Men | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Drank more than 4 units on at least one day | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 16-24 | 52 | 50 | 50 | 49 | 51 | 47 | 42 | 39 | 42 | 44 | 2,564 | 760 |
| 25-44 | 48 | 45 | 49 | 46 | 47 | 48 | 42 | 42 | 48 | 48 | 7,010 | 2,180 |
| 45-64 | 37 | 38 | 37 | 38 | 41 | 37 | 35 | 33 | 42 | 44 | 6,493 | 2,540 |
| 65 and over | 16 | 16 | 18 | 16 | 19 | 20 | 16 | 14 | 21 | 23 | 3,873 | 1,750 |
| Total | 39 | 39 | 40 | 38 | 40 | 39 | 35 | 33 | 40 | 41 | 19,940 | 7,230 |
| Drank more than 8 units on at least one day | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 16-24 | 39 | 37 | 37 | 35 | 37 | 32 | 30 | 27 | 30 | 32 | 2,564 | 760 |
| 25-44 | 29 | 27 | 30 | 28 | 30 | 31 | 25 | 25 | 31 | 31 | 7,010 | 2,180 |
| 45-64 | 17 | 17 | 17 | 18 | 20 | 18 | 16 | 15 | 21 | 24 | 6,493 | 2,540 |
| 65 and over | 4 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 4 | 4 | 7 | 8 | 3,873 | 1,750 |
| Total | 22 | 21 | 22 | 21 | 23 | 22 | 19 | 18 | 23 | 24 | 19,940 | 7,230 |
| Women | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Drank more than 3 units on at least one day | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 16-24 | 42 | 42 | 40 | 42 | 40 | 39 | 36 | 34 | 39 | 40 | 2,675 | 800 |
| 25-44 | 28 | 31 | 31 | 31 | 30 | 28 | 26 | 27 | 40 | 43 | 7,818 | 2,740 |
| 45-64 | 17 | 19 | 19 | 19 | 20 | 20 | 18 | 17 | 35 | 36 | 7,202 | 2,860 |
| 65 and over | 4 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 14 | 14 | 4,915 | 1,990 |
| Total | 21 | 23 | 23 | 23 | 23 | 22 | 20 | 20 | 33 | 34 | 22,611 | 8,380 |
| Drank more than 6 units on at least one day | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 16-24 | 24 | 27 | 27 | 28 | 26 | 24 | 22 | 20 | 25 | 24 | 2,675 | 800 |
| 25-44 | 11 | 13 | 14 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 11 | 12 | 21 | 22 | 7,818 | 2,740 |
| 45-64 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 6 | 4 | 4 | 12 | 13 | 7,202 | 2,860 |
| 65 and over | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 4,915 | 1,990 |
| Total | 8 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 9 | 9 | 8 | 8 | 15 | 15 | 22,611 | 8,380 |

1 2005 data includes last quarter of 2004/5 data due to survey change from financial year to calendar year.

2 Results for 2006 & 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).

3 Figures for unweighted sample have been rounded independently. The sum of component items does not therefore necessarily add to the totals shown. Bases for earlier years can be found in GHS reports for each year.

Table 2.3 Whether drank last week and number of drinking days, by sex and age

| <i>Persons aged 16 and over</i> | | <i>Great Britain: 2007¹</i> | | | | |
|--|-------|--|--------|-------------|--------|--|
| Drinking days last week | Age | | | | | |
| | 16-24 | 25-44 | 45-64 | 65 and over | Total | |
| | % | % | % | % | % | |
| Men | | | | | | |
| 0 | 36 | 26 | 24 | 33 | 28 | |
| 1 | 22 | 20 | 16 | 18 | 19 | |
| 2 | 18 | 15 | 14 | 9 | 14 | |
| 3 | 11 | 14 | 12 | 7 | 11 | |
| 4 | 5 | 7 | 8 | 4 | 6 | |
| 5 | 4 | 6 | 6 | 5 | 6 | |
| 6 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 3 | |
| 7 | 3 | 9 | 17 | 22 | 13 | |
| | 9 | 18 | 27 | 29 | 22 | |
| % who drank last week | 64 | 74 | 76 | 67 | 72 | |
| <i>Weighted base (000's)</i> <i>=100%</i> | 2,591 | 7,021 | 6,512 | 3,879 | 20,003 | |
| <i>Unweighted sample²</i> | 760 | 2,180 | 2,550 | 1,760 | 7,240 | |
| | % | % | % | % | % | |
| Women | | | | | | |
| 0 | 46 | 39 | 39 | 55 | 43 | |
| 1 | 24 | 21 | 17 | 15 | 19 | |
| 2 | 14 | 14 | 13 | 6 | 12 | |
| 3 | 9 | 10 | 10 | 5 | 9 | |
| 4 | 3 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 5 | |
| 5 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 4 | |
| 6 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | |
| 7 | 2 | 5 | 9 | 12 | 7 | |
| | 4 | 11 | 15 | 15 | 12 | |
| % who drank last week | 54 | 61 | 61 | 45 | 57 | |
| <i>Weighted base (000's)</i> <i>=100%</i> | 2,661 | 7,818 | 7,210 | 4,922 | 22,611 | |
| <i>Unweighted sample²</i> | 800 | 2,740 | 2,860 | 1,990 | 8,380 | |
| | % | % | % | % | % | |
| All persons | | | | | | |
| 0 | 41 | 33 | 32 | 45 | 36 | |
| 1 | 23 | 20 | 17 | 16 | 19 | |
| 2 | 16 | 14 | 14 | 7 | 13 | |
| 3 | 10 | 12 | 11 | 6 | 10 | |
| 4 | 4 | 6 | 7 | 4 | 6 | |
| 5 | 3 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 4 | |
| 6 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 | |
| 7 | 2 | 7 | 12 | 16 | 10 | |
| | 6 | 15 | 21 | 21 | 17 | |
| % who drank last week | 59 | 67 | 68 | 55 | 64 | |
| <i>Weighted base (000's)</i> <i>=100%</i> | 5,252 | 14,839 | 13,722 | 8,800 | 42,614 | |
| <i>Unweighted sample²</i> | 1,560 | 4,920 | 5,410 | 3,740 | 15,630 | |

1 Results for 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).

2 Figures for unweighted sample have been rounded independently. The sum of component items does not therefore necessarily add to the totals shown.

Table 2.4 Maximum drunk on any one day last week by sex and age

| <i>Persons aged 16 and over</i> | | <i>Great Britain: 2007²</i> | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|--|
| Maximum daily amount | Age | | | | | |
| | 16-24 | 25-44 | 45-64 | 65 and over | Total | |
| | % | % | % | % | % | |
| Men | | | | | | |
| Drank nothing last week | 37 | 26 | 24 | 33 | 28 | |
| Up to 4 units | <u>20</u> | <u>26</u> | <u>32</u> | <u>45</u> | <u>31</u> | |
| More than 4, up to 8 units | <u>12</u> 44 | <u>17</u> 48 | <u>20</u> 44 | <u>14</u> 23 | <u>17</u> 41 | |
| More than 8 units | <u>32</u> | <u>31</u> | <u>24</u> | <u>8</u> | <u>24</u> | |
| | % | | % | % | % | |
| Women | | | | | | |
| Drank nothing last week | 46 | 39 | 39 | 55 | 43 | |
| Up to 3 units | <u>13</u> | <u>19</u> | <u>26</u> | <u>31</u> | <u>23</u> | |
| More than 3, up to 6 units | <u>16</u> 40 | <u>20</u> 43 | <u>23</u> 36 | <u>11</u> 14 | <u>19</u> 34 | |
| More than 6 units | <u>24</u> | <u>22</u> | <u>13</u> | <u>3</u> | <u>15</u> | |
| | % | % | % | % | % | |
| All persons¹ | | | | | | |
| Drank nothing last week | 42 | 33 | 32 | 45 | 36 | |
| Up to 4/3 units | <u>16</u> | <u>22</u> | <u>29</u> | <u>37</u> | <u>27</u> | |
| More than 4/3, up to 8/6 units | <u>14</u> 42 | <u>19</u> 45 | <u>21</u> 40 | <u>13</u> 18 | <u>18</u> 37 | |
| More than 8/6 units | <u>28</u> | <u>26</u> | <u>18</u> | <u>5</u> | <u>20</u> | |
| <i>Weighted base (000's) = 100%</i> | | | | | | |
| <i>Men</i> | 2,564 | 7,010 | 6,493 | 3,873 | 19,940 | |
| <i>Women</i> | 2,675 | 7,818 | 7,202 | 4,915 | 22,611 | |
| <i>All persons</i> | 5,239 | 14,828 | 13,696 | 8,789 | 42,552 | |
| <i>Unweighted sample³</i> | | | | | | |
| <i>Men</i> | 760 | 2,180 | 2,540 | 1,750 | 7,230 | |
| <i>Women</i> | 800 | 2,740 | 2,860 | 1,990 | 8,380 | |
| <i>All persons</i> | 1,560 | 4,920 | 5,400 | 3,740 | 15,620 | |

1 The first of each pair of figures shown relates to men, and the second, to women.

2 Results for 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).

3 Figures for unweighted sample have been rounded independently. The sum of component items does not therefore necessarily add to the totals shown.

Table 2.5 Drinking last week, by sex, age and marital status

| <i>Persons aged 16 and over</i> | | | | | | | | | | <i>Great Britain: 2007</i> | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-------|-------------|--------|-------|-------------|--------|-------------|-------------|--------|----------------------------|-------------|-------|-------|-------------|-------|-------------|-------------|-------|--|
| Marital status | Men | | | Women | | | All persons | | | Men | | | Women | | | All persons | | | |
| | 16-44 | 45 and over | Total | 16-44 | 45 and over | Total | 16-44 | 45 and over | Total | 16-44 | 45 and over | Total | 16-44 | 45 and over | Total | 16-44 | 45 and over | Total | |
| Percentage who drank last week | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Single | 66 | 60 | 65 | 58 | 47 | 56 | 62 | 54 | 61 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Married/cohabiting | 76 | 76 | 76 | 60 | 61 | 61 | 67 | 69 | 68 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Divorced/separated | 70 | 71 | 71 | 62 | 51 | 55 | 65 | 59 | 61 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Widowed | * | 61 | 62 | 34 | 38 | 38 | 39 | 44 | 44 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 72 | 73 | 72 | 59 | 55 | 57 | 65 | 63 | 64 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Percentage who drank on five or more days last week | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Single | 11 | 20 | 13 | 5 | 15 | 7 | 8 | 18 | 10 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Married/cohabiting | 19 | 29 | 25 | 11 | 17 | 15 | 15 | 23 | 20 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Divorced/separated | 15 | 23 | 21 | 11 | 10 | 10 | 12 | 15 | 14 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Widowed | * | 23 | 23 | 9 | 12 | 12 | 16 | 14 | 14 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 16 | 27 | 22 | 9 | 15 | 12 | 12 | 21 | 17 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Percentage who drank more than 4/3 units on at least one day last week ¹ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Single | 46 | 29 | 43 | 43 | 22 | 39 | 44 | 26 | 41 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Married/cohabiting | 48 | 38 | 42 | 41 | 32 | 36 | 44 | 35 | 39 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Divorced/separated | 37 | 39 | 39 | 46 | 28 | 34 | 43 | 32 | 36 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Widowed | * | 24 | 24 | 34 | 11 | 11 | 39 | 14 | 15 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 47 | 36 | 41 | 42 | 27 | 34 | 44 | 31 | 37 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Percentage who drank more than 8/6 units on at least one day last week ¹ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Single | 31 | 17 | 28 | 26 | 10 | 24 | 29 | 14 | 26 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Married/cohabiting | 31 | 19 | 24 | 21 | 10 | 15 | 26 | 15 | 19 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Divorced/separated | 25 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 10 | 15 | 25 | 15 | 18 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Widowed | * | 10 | 10 | 29 | 3 | 3 | 35 | 4 | 5 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 31 | 18 | 24 | 23 | 9 | 15 | 27 | 13 | 20 | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Weighted base (000's) = 100%</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Single | 3,875 | 856 | 4,730 | 3,466 | 684 | 4,152 | 7,341 | 1,540 | 8,881 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Married/cohabiting | 5,329 | 7,775 | 13,104 | 6,242 | 7,542 | 13,783 | 11,571 | 15,316 | 26,888 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Divorced/separated | 366 | 941 | 1,308 | 743 | 1,516 | 2,259 | 1,110 | 2,457 | 3,567 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Widowed | * | * | 798 | * | * | 2,418 | 46 | 3,171 | 3,217 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total | * | * | 19,940 | * | * | 22,611 | 20,067 | 22,484 | 42,552 | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Unweighted sample²</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Single | 1,080 | 300 | 1,390 | 1,120 | 250 | 1,370 | 2,200 | 550 | 2,760 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Married/cohabiting | 1,750 | 3,330 | 5,080 | 2,140 | 3,180 | 5,320 | 3,900 | 6,510 | 10,400 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Divorced/separated | 100 | 340 | 450 | 270 | 560 | 830 | 370 | 900 | 1,270 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Widowed | * | * | 320 | * | * | 860 | 10 | 1,180 | 1,190 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total | * | * | 7,230 | * | * | 8,380 | 6,480 | 9,140 | 15,620 | | | | | | | | | | |

Shaded figures indicate the estimates are unreliable and any analysis using these figures may be invalid. Any use of these shaded figures must be accompanied by this disclaimer.

Cells with small counts have been suppressed for disclosure control purposes

1 The first of each pair of figures shown relates to men, and the second, to women.

2 Figures for unweighted sample have been rounded independently. The sum of component items does not therefore necessarily add to the totals shown.

Table 2.6 Drinking last week, by sex, and socio-economic classification based on the current or last job of the household reference person

| <i>Persons aged 16 and over</i> | <i>Great Britain: 2007²</i> | | |
|--|--|--------|-------------|
| Socio-economic classification of household reference person ¹ | Men | Women | All persons |
| Percentage who drank last week | | | |
| Managerial and professional | | | |
| Large employer and higher managerial | 84 | 77 | 81 |
| Higher professional | 82 | 69 | 76 |
| Lower managerial and professional | 77 | 65 | 70 |
| Intermediate | | | |
| Intermediate | 72 | 56 | 62 |
| Small employers/own account workers | 72 | 59 | 66 |
| Routine and manual | | | |
| Lower supervisory and technical | 70 | 50 | 60 |
| Semi-routine | 63 | 45 | 52 |
| Routine | 64 | 42 | 52 |
| Total ¹ | 72 | 57 | 64 |
| Percentage who drank on 5 or more days last week | | | |
| Managerial and professional | | | |
| Large employer and higher managerial | 32 | 23 | 28 |
| Higher professional | 29 | 18 | 24 |
| Lower managerial and professional | 24 | 15 | 19 |
| Intermediate | | | |
| Intermediate | 21 | 12 | 15 |
| Small employers/own account workers | 25 | 14 | 19 |
| Routine and manual | | | |
| Lower supervisory and technical | 18 | 9 | 14 |
| Semi-routine | 17 | 7 | 11 |
| Routine | 14 | 6 | 9 |
| Total ¹ | 22 | 12 | 17 |
| <i>Weighted bases (000's) = 100%</i> | | | |
| Large employer and higher managerial | 1,751 | 1,742 | 3,493 |
| Higher professional | 2,199 | 1,940 | 4,139 |
| Lower managerial and professional | 4,577 | 5,419 | 9,996 |
| Intermediate | 1,340 | 2,153 | 3,493 |
| Small employers/own account workers | 2,208 | 2,117 | 4,325 |
| Lower supervisory and technical | 2,396 | 2,192 | 4,587 |
| Semi-routine | 2,229 | 3,212 | 5,442 |
| Routine | 2,315 | 2,625 | 4,940 |
| Total ¹ | 19,397 | 21,897 | 41,295 |
| <i>Unweighted sample</i> | | | |
| Large employer and higher managerial | 690 | 700 | 1,380 |
| Higher professional | 810 | 760 | 1,560 |
| Lower managerial and professional | 1,740 | 2,090 | 3,830 |
| Intermediate | 490 | 800 | 1,280 |
| Small employers/own account workers | 780 | 760 | 1,540 |
| Lower supervisory and technical | 850 | 800 | 1,650 |
| Semi-routine | 770 | 1,150 | 1,930 |
| Routine | 830 | 950 | 1,790 |
| Total ¹ | 7,060 | 8,160 | 15,220 |

1 Full-time students, members of the Armed Forces, the long term unemployed and those who have never worked are not shown as separate categories but are included in the totals.

2 Results for 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).

Table 2.7 Maximum number of units drunk on at least one day last week, by sex and socio-economic classification based on the current or last job of the household reference person

Persons aged 16 and over

Great Britain: 2007³

| Socio-economic classification of household reference person ¹ | Men | Women | All persons |
|---|--------|--------|-------------|
| Percentage who drank more than 4/3 units on at least one day last week ² | | | |
| Managerial and professional | | | |
| Large employer and higher managerial | 49 | 49 | 49 |
| Higher professional | 46 45 | 43 40 | 45 43 |
| Lower managerial and professional | 44 | 37 | 40 |
| Intermediate | | | |
| Intermediate | 42 40 | 33 35 | 37 37 |
| Small employers/own account workers | 40 | 36 | 38 |
| Routine and manual | | | |
| Lower supervisory and technical | 41 | 30 | 36 |
| Semi-routine | 35 37 | 26 26 | 30 31 |
| Routine | 36 | 24 | 29 |
| Total ¹ | 41 | 34 | 37 |
| Percentage who drank more than 8/6 units on at least one day last week ² | | | |
| Managerial and professional | | | |
| Large employer and higher managerial | 28 | 21 | 25 |
| Higher professional | 29 27 | 19 17 | 24 22 |
| Lower managerial and professional | 25 | 16 | 20 |
| Intermediate | | | |
| Intermediate | 25 23 | 16 17 | 20 20 |
| Small employers/own account workers | 22 | 18 | 20 |
| Routine and manual | | | |
| Lower supervisory and technical | 25 | 12 | 19 |
| Semi-routine | 21 22 | 12 12 | 16 17 |
| Routine | 21 | 11 | 16 |
| Total ¹ | 24 | 15 | 19 |
| <i>Weighted bases (000's) = 100%</i> | | | |
| Large employer and higher managerial | 1,751 | 1,740 | 3,491 |
| Higher professional | 2,195 | 1,942 | 4,137 |
| Lower managerial and professional | 4,560 | 5,412 | 9,971 |
| Intermediate | 1,332 | 2,153 | 3,485 |
| Small employers/own account workers | 2,206 | 2,115 | 4,321 |
| Lower supervisory and technical | 2,389 | 2,197 | 4,587 |
| Semi-routine | 2,221 | 3,209 | 5,429 |
| Routine | 2,312 | 2,631 | 4,942 |
| Total ¹ | 19,347 | 21,891 | 41,238 |
| <i>Unweighted sample</i> | | | |
| Large employer and higher managerial | 690 | 700 | 1,380 |
| Higher professional | 810 | 760 | 1,560 |
| Lower managerial and professional | 1,740 | 2,090 | 3,830 |
| Intermediate | 480 | 800 | 1,280 |
| Small employers/own account workers | 780 | 760 | 1,530 |
| Lower supervisory and technical | 850 | 800 | 1,650 |
| Semi-routine | 770 | 1,150 | 1,920 |
| Routine | 830 | 950 | 1,790 |
| Total ¹ | 7,050 | 8,150 | 15,210 |

1 Full-time students, members of the Armed Forces, the long term unemployed and those who have never worked are not shown as separate categories but are included in the totals.

2 The first of each pair of figures shown relates to men, and the second, to women.

3 Results for 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).

Table 2.8 Drinking last week, by sex and usual gross weekly household income

| <i>Persons aged 16 and over</i> | | <i>Great Britain: 2007²</i> | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|---|--|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Drinking last week | Usual gross weekly household income (£) | | | | | | Total ¹ |
| | Up to 200.00 | 200.01 - 400.00 | 400.01 - 600.00 | 600.01 - 800.00 | 800.01 - 1000.00 | 1000.01 or more | |
| Percentages | | | | | | | |
| Drank last week | | | | | | | |
| Men | 59 | 63 | 70 | 74 | 79 | 84 | 72 |
| Women | 39 | 52 | 55 | 62 | 65 | 71 | 57 |
| All persons | 47 | 57 | 62 | 68 | 72 | 78 | 64 |
| Drank on 5 or more days | | | | | | | |
| Men | 17 | 19 | 20 | 22 | 24 | 27 | 22 |
| Women | 10 | 10 | 12 | 16 | 12 | 15 | 12 |
| All persons | 13 | 14 | 16 | 19 | 18 | 21 | 17 |
| <i>Weighted base (000's)</i> | | | | | | | |
| <i>= 100%</i> | | | | | | | |
| Men | 2,358 | 3,293 | 3,056 | 2,758 | 2,150 | 4,427 | 18,043 |
| Women | 3,749 | 3,949 | 3,317 | 2,720 | 2,128 | 4,476 | 20,340 |
| All persons | 6,108 | 7,243 | 6,373 | 5,478 | 4,278 | 8,903 | 38,383 |
| <i>Unweighted sample</i> | | | | | | | |
| Men | 850 | 1,250 | 1,100 | 1,000 | 780 | 1,580 | 6,560 |
| Women | 1,370 | 1,550 | 1,230 | 1,010 | 780 | 1,630 | 7,570 |
| All persons | 2,210 | 2,800 | 2,330 | 2,010 | 1,560 | 3,210 | 14,130 |

1 The total includes those for whom household income was not available

2 Results for 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).

Table 2.9 Maximum drunk on any one day last week by sex and usual gross weekly household income

| <i>Persons aged 16 and over</i> | | <i>Great Britain: 2007³</i> | | | | | |
|--|---|--|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Drinking last week | Usual gross weekly household income (£) | | | | | | Total ¹ |
| | Up to 200.00 | 200.01 - 400.00 | 400.01 - 600.00 | 600.01 - 800.00 | 800.01 - 1000.00 | 1000.01 or more | |
| Percentages | | | | | | | |
| Drank more than 4/3 units on at least one day last week ² | | | | | | | |
| Men | 27 | 29 | 40 | 42 | 49 | 54 | 41 |
| Women | 18 | 27 | 35 | 39 | 40 | 47 | 34 |
| All persons | 22 | 28 | 37 | 41 | 44 | 51 | 37 |
| Drank more than 8/6 units on at least one day last week ² | | | | | | | |
| Men | 16 | 16 | 24 | 24 | 31 | 33 | 24 |
| Women | 7 | 11 | 17 | 20 | 18 | 21 | 15 |
| All persons | 10 | 13 | 20 | 22 | 25 | 27 | 20 |
| <i>Weighted base (000's)</i> | | | | | | | |
| <i>= 100%</i> | | | | | | | |
| Men | 2,342 | 3,289 | 3,048 | 2,758 | 2,148 | 4,402 | 17,986 |
| Women | 3,753 | 3,945 | 3,317 | 2,720 | 2,128 | 4,476 | 20,340 |
| All persons | 6,095 | 7,234 | 6,365 | 5,478 | 4,276 | 8,878 | 38,327 |
| <i>Unweighted sample</i> | | | | | | | |
| Men | 840 | 1,250 | 1,100 | 1,000 | 770 | 1,580 | 6,540 |
| Women | 1,370 | 1,550 | 1,230 | 1,010 | 780 | 1,630 | 7,570 |
| All persons | 2,210 | 2,800 | 2,330 | 2,010 | 1,560 | 3,210 | 14,120 |

- 1 The total includes those for whom household income was not available
2 The first of each pair of figures shown relates to men, and the second, to women.
3 Results for 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).

Table 2.10 Drinking last week, by sex and economic activity status

| <i>Persons aged 16-64</i> | | <i>Great Britain: 2007¹</i> | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|-----------------------|--------|--|
| Drinking last week | Economic activity status | | | | |
| | Working | Unemployed | Economically inactive | Total | |
| Percentages | | | | | |
| Drank last week | | | | | |
| Men | 78 | 59 | 56 | 73 | |
| Women | 66 | 54 | 48 | 60 | |
| All persons | 72 | 57 | 51 | 66 | |
| Drank on 5 or more days last week | | | | | |
| Men | 21 | 14 | 16 | 20 | |
| Women | 12 | 10 | 11 | 12 | |
| All persons | 17 | 12 | 13 | 16 | |
| <i>Weighted base (000's)</i> | | | | | |
| <i>= 100%</i> | | | | | |
| Men | 12,779 | 529 | 2,816 | 16,124 | |
| Women | 12,228 | 398 | 5,061 | 17,687 | |
| All persons | 25,007 | 927 | 7,877 | 33,811 | |
| <i>Unweighted sample²</i> | | | | | |
| Men | 4,360 | 160 | 970 | 5,490 | |
| Women | 4,380 | 140 | 1,880 | 6,400 | |
| All persons | 8,730 | 300 | 2,860 | 11,890 | |

1 Results for 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).

2 Figures for unweighted sample have been rounded independently.

The sum of component items does not therefore necessarily add to the totals shown.

Table 2.11 Maximum drunk on any one day last week, by sex and economic activity status

| <i>Persons aged 16-64</i> | | <i>Great Britain: 2007²</i> | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--|-----------------------|--------|--|
| Drinking last week | Economic activity status | | | | |
| | Working | Unemployed | Economically inactive | Total | |
| Percentages | | | | | |
| Drank more than 4/3 units on at least one day ¹ | | | | | |
| Men | 49 | 38 | 33 | 46 | |
| Women | 44 | 37 | 29 | 39 | |
| All persons | 46 | 38 | 31 | 42 | |
| Drank more than 8/6 units on at least one day ¹ | | | | | |
| Men | 30 | 26 | 20 | 28 | |
| Women | 21 | 29 | 12 | 19 | |
| All persons | 26 | 27 | 15 | 23 | |
| <i>Weighted base (000's)</i> | | | | | |
| <i>= 100%</i> | | | | | |
| Men | 12,731 | 524 | 2,811 | 16,067 | |
| Women | 12,221 | 398 | 5,075 | 17,693 | |
| All persons | 24,952 | 922 | 7,886 | 33,760 | |
| <i>Unweighted sample³</i> | | | | | |
| Men | 4,340 | 160 | 970 | 5,480 | |
| Women | 4,370 | 140 | 1,890 | 6,400 | |
| All persons | 8,720 | 300 | 2,860 | 11,870 | |

1 The first of each pair of figures shown relates to men, and the second, to women.

2 Results for 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).

3 Figures for unweighted sample have been rounded independently.

The sum of component items does not therefore necessarily add to the totals shown.

Table 2.12 Drinking last week, by sex and usual gross weekly earnings

| <i>Persons aged 16-64 in full-time employment</i> | | <i>Great Britain: 2007²</i> | | | | | | |
|---|--|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------|--|
| Drinking last week | Usual gross weekly earnings ¹ (£) | | | | | | | |
| | Up to 200.00 | 200.01 -300.00 | 300.01 -400.00 | 400.01 -600.00 | 600.01 -800.00 | 800.01 or more | Total | |
| | Percentages | | | | | | | |
| Drank last week | | | | | | | | |
| Men | 76 | 72 | 73 | 79 | 83 | 87 | 79 | |
| Women | 60 | 63 | 65 | 68 | 74 | 81 | 67 | |
| All persons | 70 | 67 | 70 | 76 | 80 | 86 | 75 | |
| Drank on 5 or more days | | | | | | | | |
| Men | 24 | 17 | 19 | 19 | 25 | 28 | 22 | |
| Women | 15 | 7 | 9 | 14 | 23 | 20 | 13 | |
| All persons | 20 | 12 | 14 | 18 | 25 | 26 | 18 | |
| <i>Weighted base (000's)</i> | | | | | | | | |
| <i>= 100%</i> | | | | | | | | |
| Men | 823 | 1,435 | 1,814 | 3,101 | 1,550 | 1,891 | 10,613 | |
| Women | 566 | 1,476 | 1,510 | 1,576 | 780 | 547 | 6,456 | |
| All persons | 1,389 | 2,912 | 3,324 | 4,677 | 2,330 | 2,437 | 17,069 | |
| <i>Unweighted sample³</i> | | | | | | | | |
| Men | 280 | 460 | 600 | 1,050 | 540 | 700 | 3,630 | |
| Women | 190 | 500 | 530 | 540 | 280 | 200 | 2,250 | |
| All persons | 470 | 960 | 1,140 | 1,590 | 820 | 900 | 5,880 | |

1 Usual gross weekly earnings for the respondent

2 Results for 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).

3 Figures for unweighted sample have been rounded independently.

The sum of component items does not therefore necessarily add to the totals shown.

Table 2.13 Maximum drunk on any one day last week, by sex and usual gross weekly earnings

| <i>Persons aged 16-64 in full-time employment</i> | | <i>Great Britain: 2007³</i> | | | | | |
|---|--|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------|
| Drinking last week | Usual gross weekly earnings ¹ (£) | | | | | | |
| | Up to 200.00 | 200.01 -300.00 | 300.01 -400.00 | 400.01 -600.00 | 600.01 -800.00 | 800.01 or more | Total |
| Percentages | | | | | | | |
| Drank more than 4/3 units on at least one day ² | | | | | | | |
| Men | 52 | 46 | 44 | 51 | 51 | 57 | 50 |
| Women | 48 | 44 | 47 | 48 | 54 | 58 | 48 |
| All persons | 50 | 45 | 46 | 50 | 52 | 57 | 49 |
| Drank more than 8/6 units on at least one day ² | | | | | | | |
| Men | 32 | 30 | 28 | 31 | 34 | 34 | 31 |
| Women | 26 | 21 | 24 | 25 | 29 | 28 | 25 |
| All persons | 30 | 25 | 26 | 29 | 33 | 33 | 29 |
| <i>Weighted base (000's)</i> | | | | | | | |
| <i>= 100%</i> | | | | | | | |
| Men | 819 | 1,420 | 1,814 | 3,099 | 1,545 | 1,888 | 10,584 |
| Women | 566 | 1,476 | 1,510 | 1,574 | 780 | 547 | 6,454 |
| All persons | 1,385 | 2,896 | 3,324 | 4,673 | 2,325 | 2,435 | 17,038 |
| <i>Unweighted sample⁴</i> | | | | | | | |
| Men | 280 | 460 | 600 | 1,050 | 540 | 700 | 3,630 |
| Women | 190 | 500 | 530 | 540 | 280 | 200 | 2,250 |
| All persons | 470 | 960 | 1,140 | 1,590 | 820 | 900 | 5,870 |

1 Usual gross weekly earnings for the respondent

2 The first of each pair of figures shown relates to men, and the second, to women

3 Results for 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).

4 Figures for unweighted sample have been rounded independently.

The sum of component items does not therefore necessarily add to the totals shown.

Table 2.14 Drinking last week, by sex and Government Office Region

| <i>Persons aged 16 and over</i> | | <i>Great Britain: 2007¹</i> | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|--|---|--|
| Government Office Region | Drinking last week | | <i>Weighted base (000's) = 100%</i> | <i>Unweighted sample²</i> |
| | Drank last week | Drank on 5 or more days last week | | |
| Men | | | | |
| | Percentages | | | |
| North East | 71 | 18 | 794 | 290 |
| North West | 76 | 20 | 2,296 | 830 |
| Yorkshire and the Humber | 76 | 21 | 1,761 | 650 |
| East Midlands | 76 | 27 | 1,559 | 630 |
| West Midlands | 72 | 22 | 1,808 | 630 |
| East of England | 70 | 22 | 2,129 | 800 |
| London | 64 | 23 | 2,158 | 580 |
| South East | 75 | 23 | 2,859 | 1,070 |
| South West | 78 | 23 | 1,761 | 700 |
| England | 73 | 23 | 17,126 | 6,180 |
| Wales | 71 | 21 | 1,105 | 420 |
| Scotland | 65 | 15 | 1,773 | 650 |
| Great Britain | 72 | 22 | 20,003 | 7,240 |
| Women | | | | |
| North East | 58 | 9 | 924 | 360 |
| North West | 62 | 12 | 2,609 | 970 |
| Yorkshire and the Humber | 60 | 15 | 2,089 | 800 |
| East Midlands | 57 | 14 | 1,716 | 710 |
| West Midlands | 53 | 12 | 2,047 | 730 |
| East of England | 61 | 13 | 2,218 | 860 |
| London | 44 | 13 | 2,562 | 700 |
| South East | 61 | 14 | 3,253 | 1,230 |
| South West | 60 | 12 | 1,984 | 800 |
| England | 57 | 13 | 19,401 | 7,160 |
| Wales | 60 | 12 | 1,139 | 450 |
| Scotland | 51 | 8 | 2,071 | 780 |
| Great Britain | 57 | 12 | 22,611 | 8,380 |
| All persons | | | | |
| North East | 64 | 13 | 1,717 | 650 |
| North West | 68 | 16 | 4,905 | 1,800 |
| Yorkshire and the Humber | 67 | 18 | 3,851 | 1,450 |
| East Midlands | 66 | 20 | 3,275 | 1,340 |
| West Midlands | 62 | 17 | 3,855 | 1,360 |
| East of England | 65 | 18 | 4,347 | 1,660 |
| London | 53 | 17 | 4,720 | 1,280 |
| South East | 67 | 18 | 6,112 | 2,300 |
| South West | 68 | 18 | 3,745 | 1,500 |
| England | 65 | 17 | 36,527 | 13,330 |
| Wales | 65 | 16 | 2,244 | 860 |
| Scotland | 57 | 11 | 3,843 | 1,430 |
| Great Britain | 64 | 17 | 42,614 | 15,630 |

1 Results for 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).

2 Figures for unweighted sample have been rounded independently.

The sum of component items does not therefore necessarily add to the totals shown.

Table 2.15 Maximum drunk on any one day last week, by sex and Government Office Region

Persons aged 16 and over

Great Britain: 2007²

| Government Office Region | Drank more than 4/3 units on at least one day ¹ | Drank more than 8/6 units on at least one day ¹ | Weighted base (000's) = 100% | Unweighted sample ³ |
|--------------------------|--|--|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Percentages | | | | |
| Men | | | | |
| North East | 43 | 22 | 789 | 290 |
| North West | 50 | 33 | 2,281 | 820 |
| Yorkshire and the Humber | 45 | 30 | 1,757 | 650 |
| East Midlands | 43 | 26 | 1,559 | 630 |
| West Midlands | 36 | 21 | 1,784 | 620 |
| East of England | 38 | 22 | 2,133 | 800 |
| London | 39 | 24 | 2,153 | 580 |
| South East | 40 | 23 | 2,859 | 1,070 |
| South West | 39 | 22 | 1,761 | 700 |
| England | 41 | 25 | 17,077 | 6,170 |
| Wales | 39 | 20 | 1,096 | 410 |
| Scotland | 41 | 23 | 1,767 | 650 |
| Great Britain | 41 | 24 | 19,940 | 7,230 |
| Women | | | | |
| North East | 32 | 11 | 925 | 360 |
| North West | 41 | 21 | 2,619 | 970 |
| Yorkshire and the Humber | 39 | 21 | 2,086 | 790 |
| East Midlands | 34 | 16 | 1,716 | 710 |
| West Midlands | 28 | 12 | 2,039 | 730 |
| East of England | 33 | 13 | 2,218 | 860 |
| London | 28 | 12 | 2,561 | 700 |
| South East | 36 | 15 | 3,253 | 1,230 |
| South West | 35 | 17 | 1,984 | 800 |
| England | 34 | 16 | 19,401 | 7,160 |
| Wales | 35 | 16 | 1,139 | 450 |
| Scotland | 31 | 12 | 2,071 | 780 |
| Great Britain | 34 | 15 | 22,611 | 8,380 |
| All persons | | | | |
| North East | 37 | 16 | 1,714 | 650 |
| North West | 45 | 27 | 4,900 | 1,800 |
| Yorkshire and the Humber | 42 | 25 | 3,842 | 1,440 |
| East Midlands | 38 | 21 | 3,275 | 1,340 |
| West Midlands | 32 | 16 | 3,824 | 1,350 |
| East of England | 35 | 17 | 4,351 | 1,660 |
| London | 33 | 18 | 4,715 | 1,270 |
| South East | 38 | 19 | 6,112 | 2,300 |
| South West | 37 | 19 | 3,745 | 1,500 |
| England | 38 | 20 | 36,479 | 13,320 |
| Wales | 37 | 18 | 2,235 | 860 |
| Scotland | 36 | 17 | 3,838 | 1,430 |
| Great Britain | 37 | 20 | 42,552 | 15,620 |

1 The first of each pair of figures shown relates to men, and the second, to women.

2 Results for 2007 include longitudinal data (see Appendix B).

3 Figures for unweighted sample have been rounded independently.

The sum of component items does not therefore necessarily add to the totals shown.