

2024



# Trend Survey on **TOBACCO**

Annual Trend Survey on Tobacco  
Use in Sri Lanka

**ADIC**  
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# **TREND SURVEY ON TOBACCO**

## **Annual Trend Survey on Tobacco Use in Sri Lanka**

### **2024**

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## Executive Summary

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The Alcohol and Drug Information Centre (ADIC), Sri Lanka has been conducting trend surveys on tobacco use annually since 1998. The trend survey analysis (also known as the SPOT Survey) is conducted under the main aim of mapping and tracing current trends of tobacco use across Sri Lanka. This report presents the findings of the trend survey for the year 2024 which was aimed at determining trends of tobacco use across the country, thereby assisting policymakers in formulating effective tobacco policies that aid reduction and prevention of tobacco use.

Data was collected through a survey administered among the population of males above 15 years of age across eleven selected districts in Sri Lanka, namely, Colombo, Kalutara, Galle, Puttalam, Jaffna, Vavuniya, Anuradhapura, Ampara, Matale, Kegalle and Badulla. Data analysis and results on tobacco usage patterns were formulated based on responses obtained from 2810 survey participants. From the survey population, 21.6% (n=607) were current smokers.

The sample was divided into three age groups for analysis as: 15-24 years, 25-39 years and 40 years and above. The majority of current smokers reported that they used tobacco on a daily basis. The highest tobacco usage rates were reported from the age category 40 years and above, from which 28.5% were current smokers.

Cigarette was the most prominently used tobacco product among the majority of the current smokers, regardless of their age group, district and occupational sector. When considering the district-wise comparison, Ampara reported the highest tobacco usage rate (23.9%), while Vavuniya reported the lowest rate (4.8%). Initiation of tobacco use has occurred mostly during the age 18-20 years (37%), and the most common type of tobacco product consumed at initiation was also cigarettes. Majority of the initiations have occurred with friends (55.1%), which indicates that peer influence has a significant impact on tobacco initiation.

Of the survey participants, 36.5% had been successful in quitting tobacco use at the time of administering the survey. The reasons for quitting tobacco use were different among the three age groups. Perceiving tobacco use as purposeless behavior and change in prices were the two most common factors for quitting, as reported by the survey participants. To build on this positive trend, it is essential to further disseminate knowledge about the health, social, and economic impacts of tobacco use, encouraging more individuals to quit the habit. Furthermore, 11.6% of survey participants aged 15–21 years were identified as current smokers—a decline from the previous year's trend survey results. However, this still highlights the prevalence of tobacco sales to underage individuals in the country, despite legal prohibitions. This finding underscores the importance of addressing this issue effectively.

The survey findings emphasize the need for further tobacco control measures as drastic policy changes and introducing and implementing a national-level prevention program to reveal the tactics of the tobacco industry, emphasizing smoking as a purposeless and harmful behaviour. The survey also provides a platform for developing a dialogue on recommendations for tobacco prevention including implementation of 'Tobacco-Free Generation' policy initiative as recommended by the Sri Lanka Medical Association (SLMA), banning single stick sales, banning

tobacco sales within a 100-meter radius of educational institutes and effective implementation of the ban on tobacco sales for underaged individuals.

## 1. Introduction

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Over the years, Sri Lanka has taken several important steps to control the prevalence of tobacco in the country. Sri Lanka was the first in the South Asian region and the fourth in the world to ratify the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) in 2003.<sup>1</sup> Correspondingly, the National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol (NATA) Act was established in 2006 to enact strong legal aspects for tobacco prevention in Sri Lanka. Some of the measures taken under the NATA Act to control tobacco use includes banning tobacco sales and promotions for youth under 21 years of age, banning tobacco advertising, promotions and sponsorships, and implementing mandatory health warning covering 80% of cigarette packs.

However, tobacco use remains a pervasive global health challenge negatively affecting both individuals and societies as a whole. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), tobacco use is responsible for approximately 8 million annual deaths globally,<sup>2</sup> while smoking accounts for the death of approximately 50 individuals per day in Sri Lanka.<sup>3</sup> Even at present, a significant proportion of the country's population amounting to approximately 1.5 million still use cigarettes. Moreover, non-communicable diseases (NCDs) are the leading cause of death worldwide, while accounting for 83% of all deaths in Sri Lanka, indicating a significant health burden to the country's health system. Furthermore, smoking lies among the four major risk factors which contribute to NCDs in Sri Lanka.<sup>4</sup> Additionally, Sri Lankans spend approximately 520 million rupees on cigarettes per day, further intensifying the prevailing economic hardships within communities.

In the year 2020, the prevalence of smoking in Sri Lanka has been reported as 9.1%,<sup>5</sup> indicating a declining trend over the years resulting from Sri Lanka's commitment to tobacco prevention. To build on the declining trend of tobacco use in the country, stronger policy regulations are crucial to achieve further reduction in tobacco use and its associated health and economic burdens. In 2018, then-Health Minister proposed a new draft policy to ban the sale of single cigarette sticks and introduce plain packaging. However, nearly seven years later, these amendments still remain unimplemented due to various factors. Therefore, the year 2024 tobacco trend survey findings put emphasis on the need to implement and facilitate further tobacco control policy initiatives, awareness programs and community interventions in order to empower people to identify the harm and negative impact of tobacco use on their overall well-being. Furthermore, there is a need to address the issues related to tobacco use among individuals to improve their awareness and protect themselves from tobacco initiations, tobacco harm and industry interference.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.ips.lk/talkingeconomics/2020/01/06/tobacco-smoking-in-sri-lanka-going-the-last-mile/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.who.int/campaigns/world-no-tobacco-day>

<sup>3</sup> <https://adicsrilanka.org/tobacco-fact-sheet-2020/>

<sup>4</sup> World Health Organization (WHO) – NCD Country Profile, Sri Lanka

<sup>5</sup> The Global Adult Tobacco Survey (GATS) 2020

## 1.1 Objectives

- To determine different trends of tobacco use within the country in terms of different products, age groups and districts.
- To analyse the trends of tobacco use and compare the results with surveys conducted in previous years.
- To identify the underlying attitudes and reasons for tobacco use among different age groups and districts.
- To determine the age of initiating tobacco use.

## 2. Methodology

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### 2.1 Survey design and setting

The trend survey was conducted as a cross-sectional survey, which spanned across eleven selected districts in Sri Lanka, namely, Colombo, Kalutara, Galle, Puttalam, Jaffna, Vavuniya, Anuradhapura, Ampara, Matale, Kegalle and Badulla in the year 2024. The selected survey locations incorporated urban and rural populations as well as all ethnicities living in the country.

### 2.2 Survey population

The male population of 15 years of age and above living in the selected districts in Sri Lanka were included in the survey. Nonconsenting participants and participants with hearing or speech impairment were excluded from the survey.

### 2.3 Sample size and sampling

The total sample size used for the trend survey was 2810 survey participants from all eleven districts. The trend survey participants were recruited using a multi-stage sample design, that incorporated stratified and systematic sampling methods.

In the next stage of sampling, age was divided into three sub-groups as 15-24 years, 25-39 years, and 40 years and above, to obtain a representative sample of males above 15 years. Since it was found from the previous surveys that the first two age groups have lower usage, it was purposively oversampled. Therefore, the planned sample allocation for the chosen age groups were 40%, 40% and 20% respectively. This was determined based on population figures from the census and statistics. However, exact sample size might have had slight variations during the survey.

### 2.4 Data collection and analysis

Trend survey data were collected by trained interviewers using a validated questionnaire, in July 2024. The ADIC trend survey is a unique survey that approaches participants in public places of the selected districts. This is to ensure high coverage of males who have a tendency to use tobacco, so that results will not be an underestimate of actual tobacco usage rates in the country. The questionnaire was prepared in both native (Sinhala and Tamil) languages and was administered in the field according to the language preference of the survey participants. The first few questions were developed for gathering demographic information of the participants. Few questions were reserved for the contemporary issues directly affecting tobacco use. The rest of them were composite questions which were developed to obtain information regarding tobacco usage patterns.

Data collected by the survey was analysed using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) and figures that represent trends were compiled using Microsoft Excel.

Trends of tobacco use were analysed in different aspects and the following terminologies were defined and used for this purpose. Three groups, namely, current smokers, last 30-day abstainers and lifetime abstainers were identified. '**Current smokers**' were defined as individuals who have consumed tobacco within the past 30 days at the time the survey was administered, while '**last 30-day abstainers**' were individuals who had consumed tobacco all long, however, have abstained during the past 30 days at the time of the survey. Individuals who have never consumed tobacco in their lifetime were referred to as '**lifetime abstainers**'. Apart from initiation and cessation, the rest of the survey results were obtained based on the responses of current smokers. Therefore, the key analysis of this report is based on the valid responses of current smokers.

### 3. Results

#### 3.1 Geographical distribution of the survey participants

A total of 2810 responses from males aged 15 years and above were received for the trend survey. However, the response rate for each question may vary from the overall sample. A summary of the status of responses from all eleven districts is stated below.

Table 1: Geographical distribution of the survey participants

District	Province	Age group			Total
		15-24 years	25-39 years	40 years and above	
<b>Colombo</b>	Western	106	101	48	255
		41.6%	39.6%	18.8%	
<b>Kalutara</b>	Western	105	101	49	255
		41.2%	39.6%	19.2%	
<b>Galle</b>	Southern	100	90	66	256
		39.1%	35.2%	25.8%	
<b>Puttalam</b>	North-Western	102	106	55	263
		38.8%	40.3%	20.9%	
<b>Jaffna</b>	Northern	96	95	67	258
		37.2%	36.8%	26.0%	
<b>Vavuniya</b>	Northern	105	98	47	250
		42.0%	39.2%	18.8%	
<b>Anuradhapura</b>	North Central	98	91	65	254
		38.6%	35.8%	25.6%	
<b>Ampara</b>	Eastern	102	89	64	255
		40.0%	34.9%	25.1%	
<b>Matale</b>	Central	94	95	64	253
		37.2%	37.5%	25.3%	
<b>Kegalle</b>	Sabaragamuwa	96	96	64	256
		37.5%	37.5%	25.0%	
<b>Badulla</b>	Uva	95	93	67	255
		37.3%	36.5%	26.3%	
<b>Total</b>		1099	1055	656	2810
		39.1%	37.5%	23.3%	

#### 3.2 Demographic Information of the survey participants

This section consists of the demographic information of the survey participants. It represents the distribution of the participants based on the age categories, level of education and occupational sector.

### 3.2.1 Age category of the survey participants

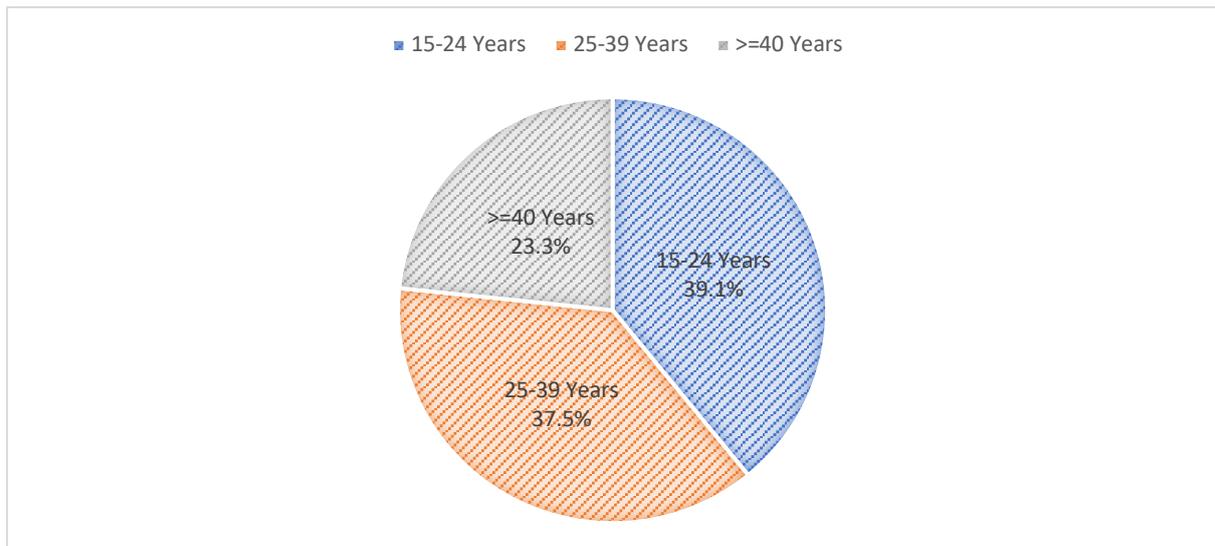


Figure 1: Age category of the survey participants

From the survey participants, the majority (39.1%) belonged to the age group 15-24 years. Furthermore, 37.5% were in the age group 25-39 years and 23.3% were in the age group 40 years and above. These figures showed a slight deviation from the initially allocated figures, as expected.

### 3.2.2 Education level of the survey participants

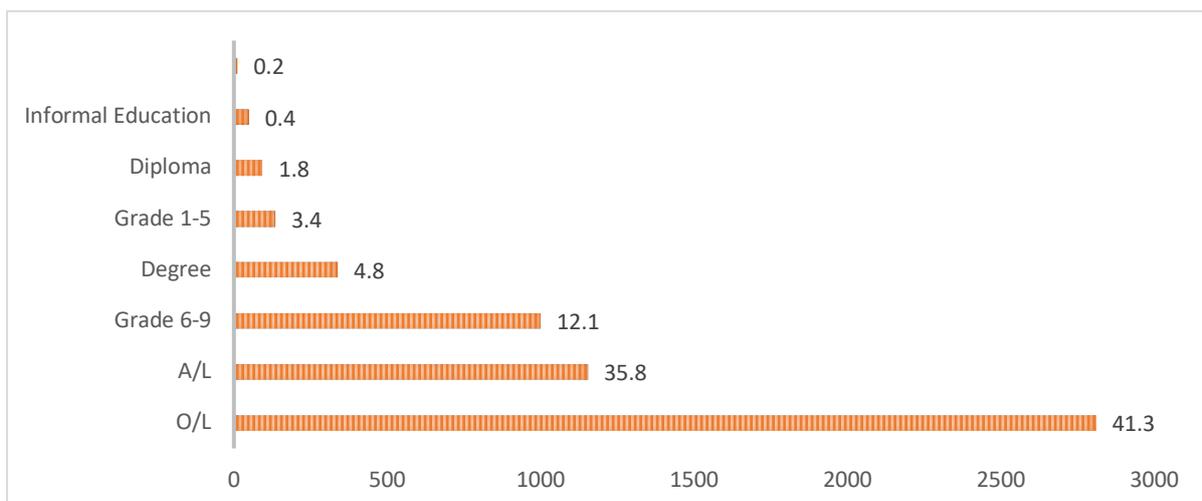


Figure 2: Education level of the survey participants

The survey participants belonged to various education levels. The highest percentage of participants (41.3%) had completed G.C.E. Ordinary Level (O/L), while the second highest percentage (35.8%) had completed G.C.E. Advanced Level (A/L).

### 3.2.3 Occupation sector of the survey participants

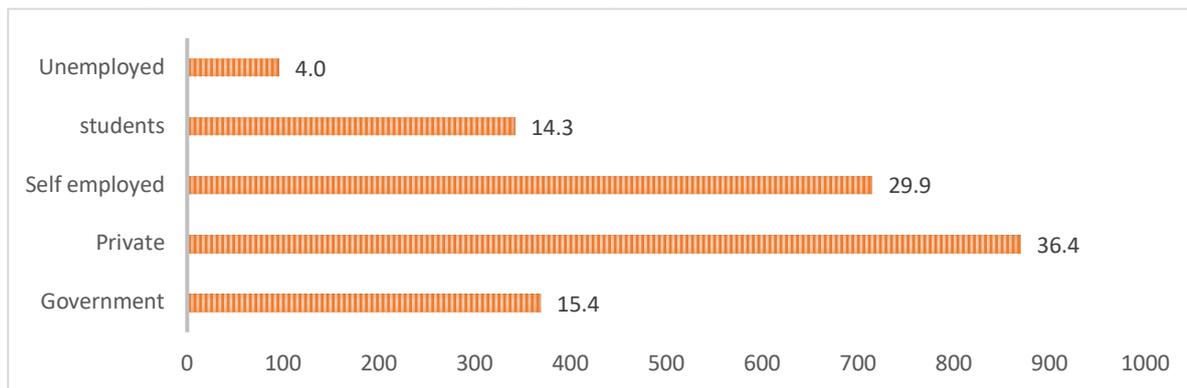


Figure 3: Occupation sector of the survey participants

The highest percentage of the survey participants were employed in the private sector (36.4%), while the second highest percentage were self-employed (29.9%). From the participants, 15.4% were in the government sector, 14.3% were students and 4.0% were unemployed.

### 3.3 Results obtained from the survey

#### 3.3.1 Status of tobacco usage among the survey participants

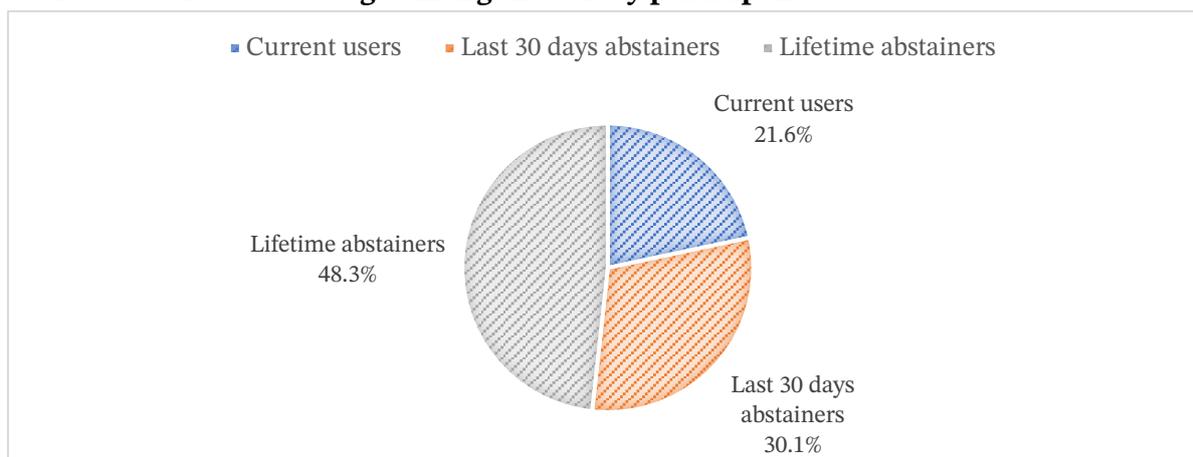


Figure 4: Status of tobacco usage

According to the findings of the survey, majority of the survey participants were lifetime abstainers (48.3%). The current smokers and last 30-day abstainers amounted to 21.6% and 30.1% respectively.

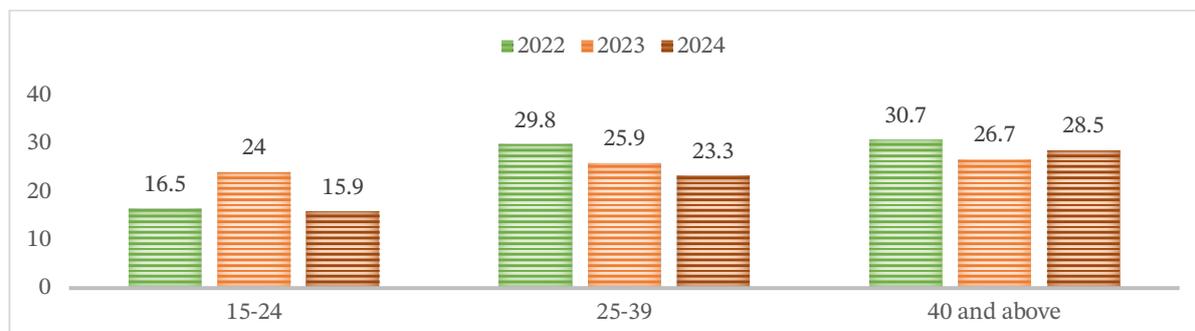


Figure 5: Comparison of tobacco use within the 3 age groups in the last 3 years

The above figure shows a comparison of tobacco use in the years 2022, 2023 and 2024. Compared to the two previous years, there is a reduction in tobacco use in the age groups 15-24 years and 25-39 years in 2024, while a slight increase in tobacco use can be observed among the individuals of 40 years and above.

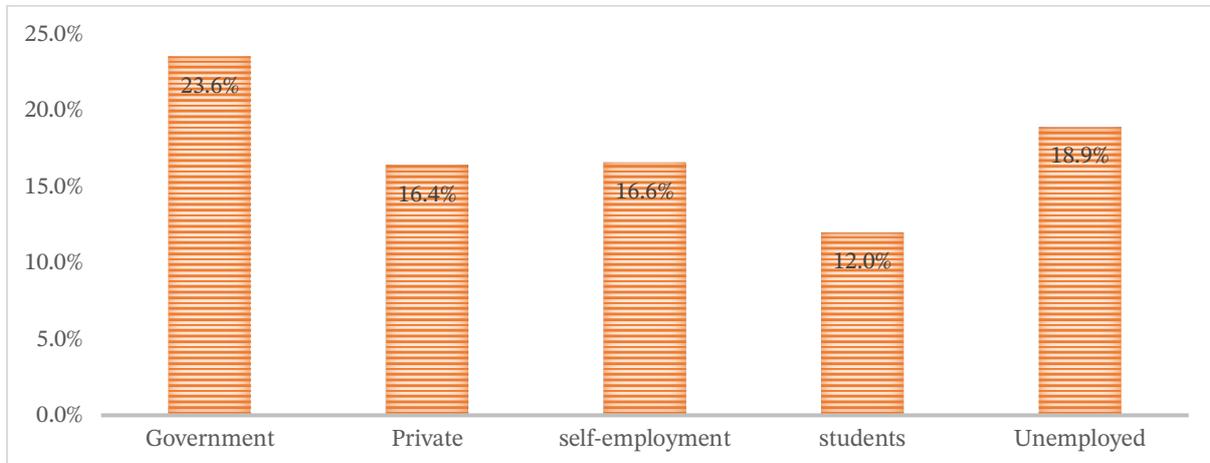


Figure 6: Tobacco use among survey participants in different occupational sectors

The highest tobacco use was reported by the participants in the government sector (23.6%), while students reported the lowest rate (12.0%).

### 3.3.2 Frequency of tobacco use among the survey participants

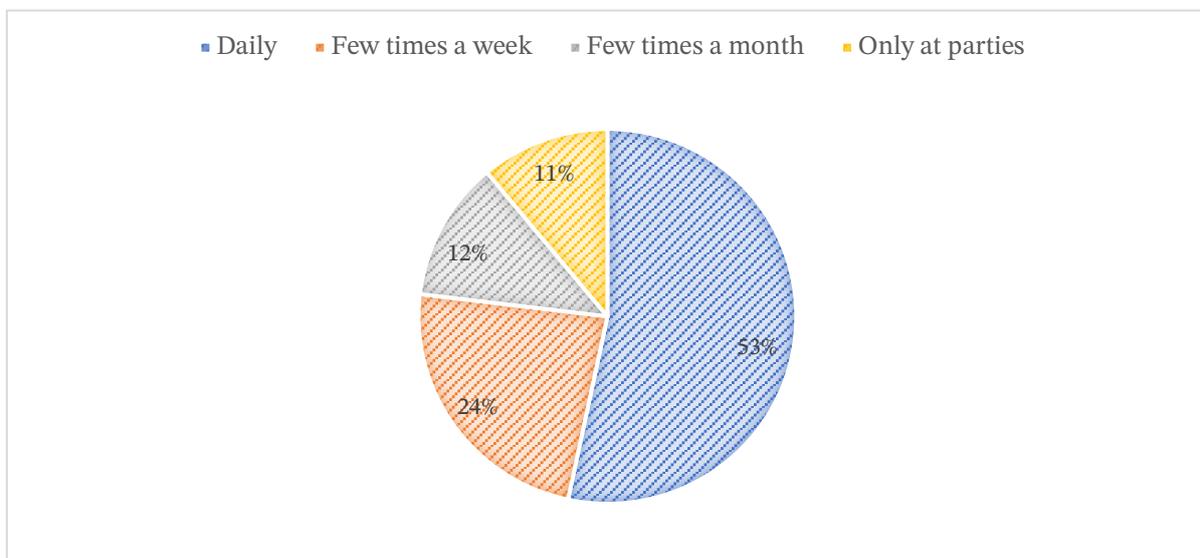


Figure 7: Frequency of tobacco use among current smokers

It was observed that the majority of current smokers were daily users (53%) while the lowest percentage of current smokers (11%) used tobacco only at parties. From the current smokers, 24.0% reported that they use tobacco a few times a week, while 12.0% of the users consumed tobacco a few times a month.

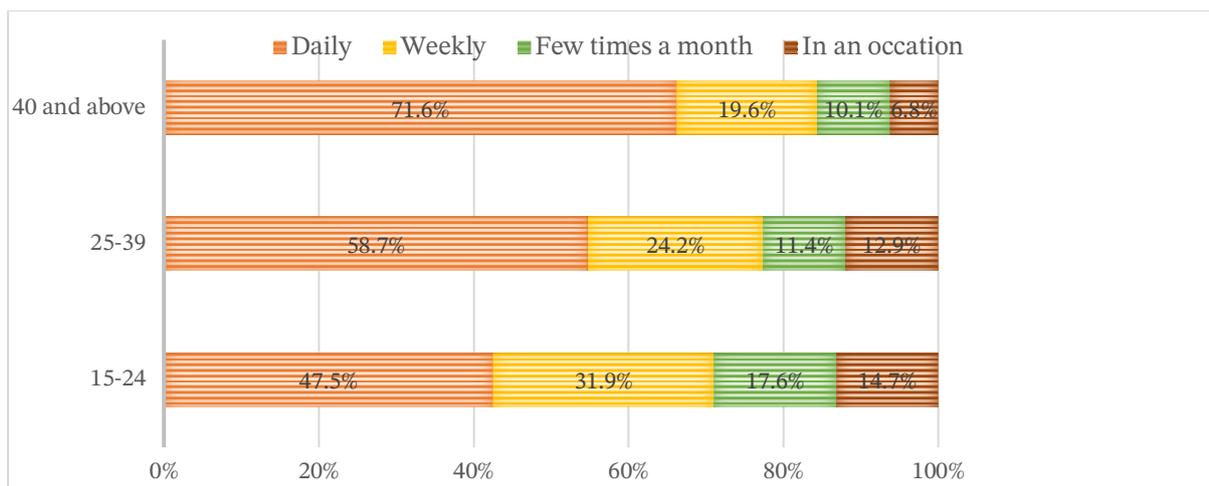


Figure 8: Frequency of tobacco use within the age categories

In all three age groups, majority of the current smokers were daily tobacco users. The age group 40 years and above showed the highest percentage of daily tobacco use (71.6%).

### 3.3.3 Types of tobacco products consumed

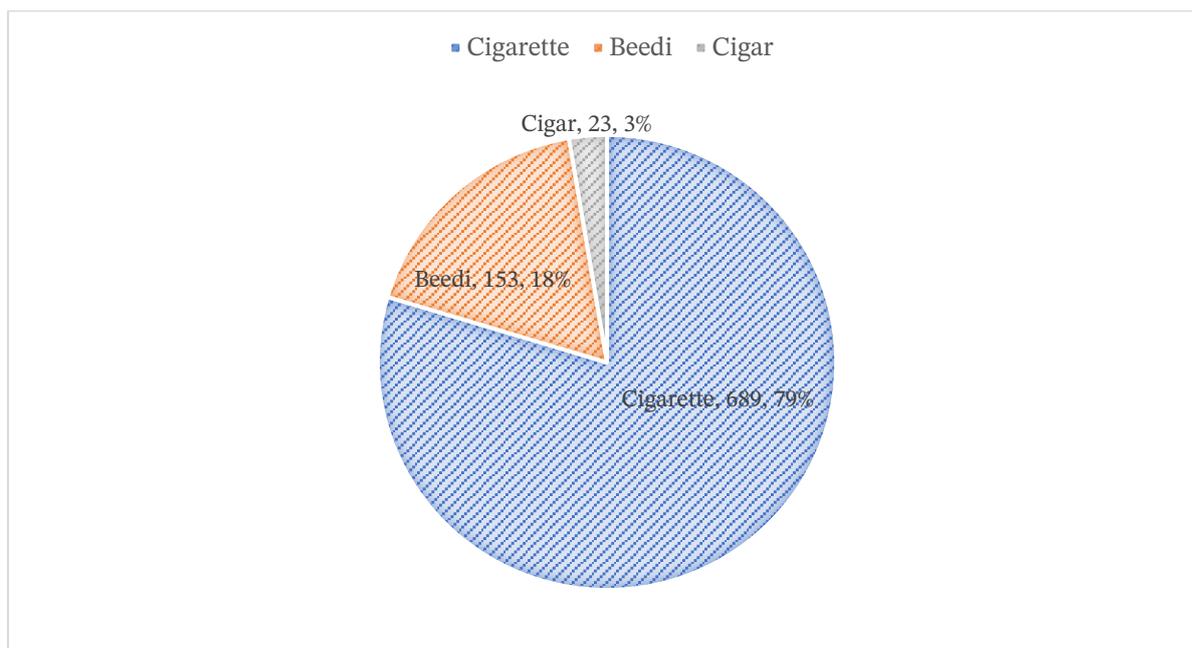


Figure 9: Types of tobacco products consumed by all current smokers

Among the current smokers, majority have reported the commonly used tobacco product as cigarettes (79%). Beedi was the second most consumed tobacco product (18%), while very few percentages reported the use of cigars (3%) and other types of tobacco products (0.8%)

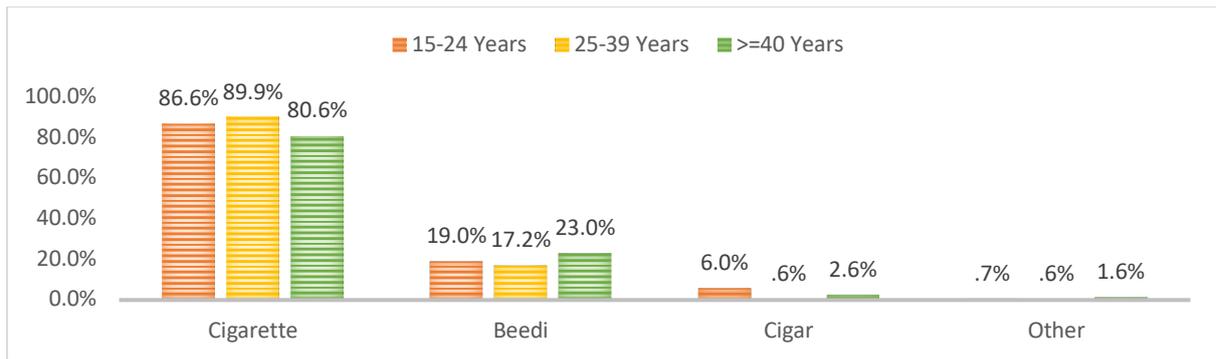


Figure 10: Types of tobacco products used by different age groups

Cigarettes show the highest usage in all 3 age groups (15-24 years: 86.6%, 25-39 years: 89.9% and 40 years and above: 80.6%). Beedi was the second most consumed tobacco product in all three age groups (15-24 years: 19.0%, 25-39 years: 17.2% and 40 years and above: 23.0%). The usage of cigars and other types of tobacco products were comparatively low.

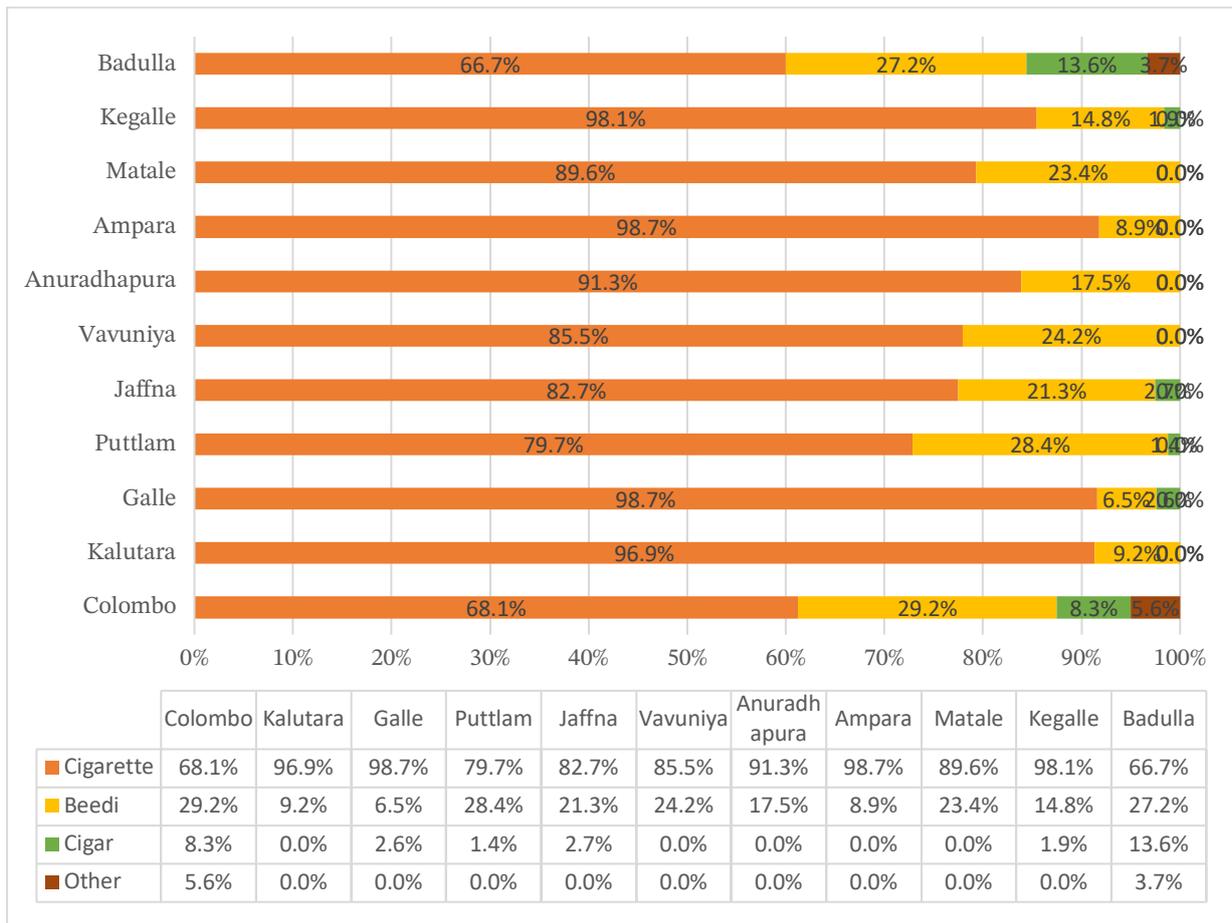


Figure 11: Types of tobacco products used by current smokers in survey locations

Cigarette was the most used tobacco product in all survey locations, while beedi, cigars and other tobacco products showed a comparatively low usage rate

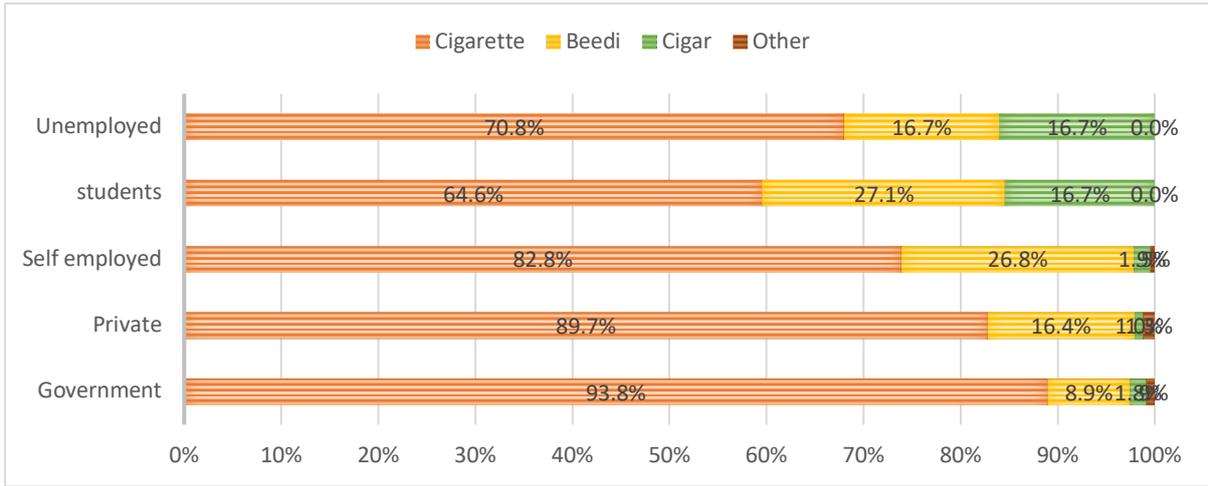


Figure 12: Usage of tobacco products by current consumers in different occupational sectors

Cigarette was the most commonly used product among the current consumers of all occupational categories, while beedi was the second most commonly used product.

### 3.3.4 Tobacco initiation

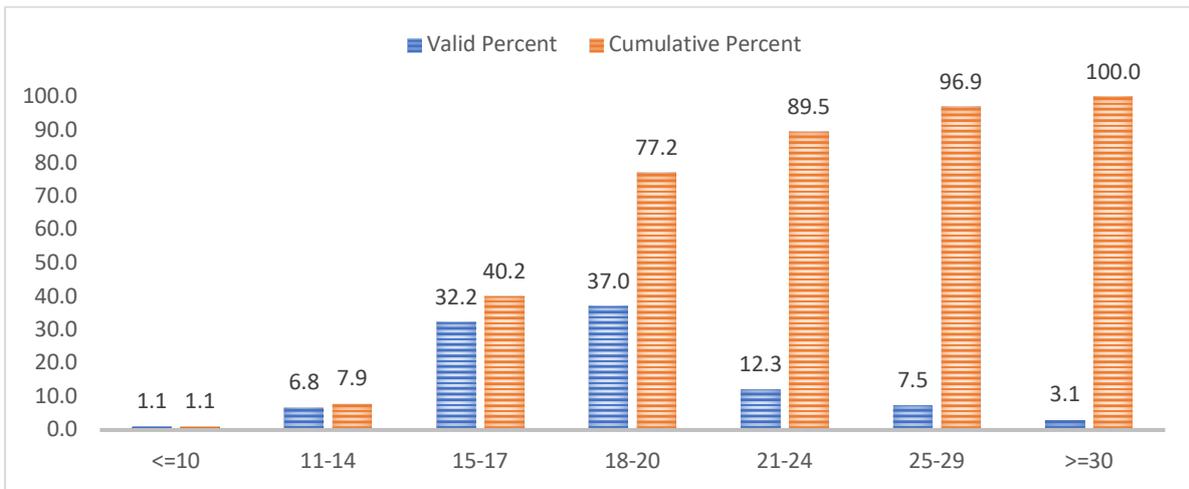


Figure 13: Tobacco initiation age

The highest percentage of initiations (37.0%) was reported at the age range of 18-20 years.

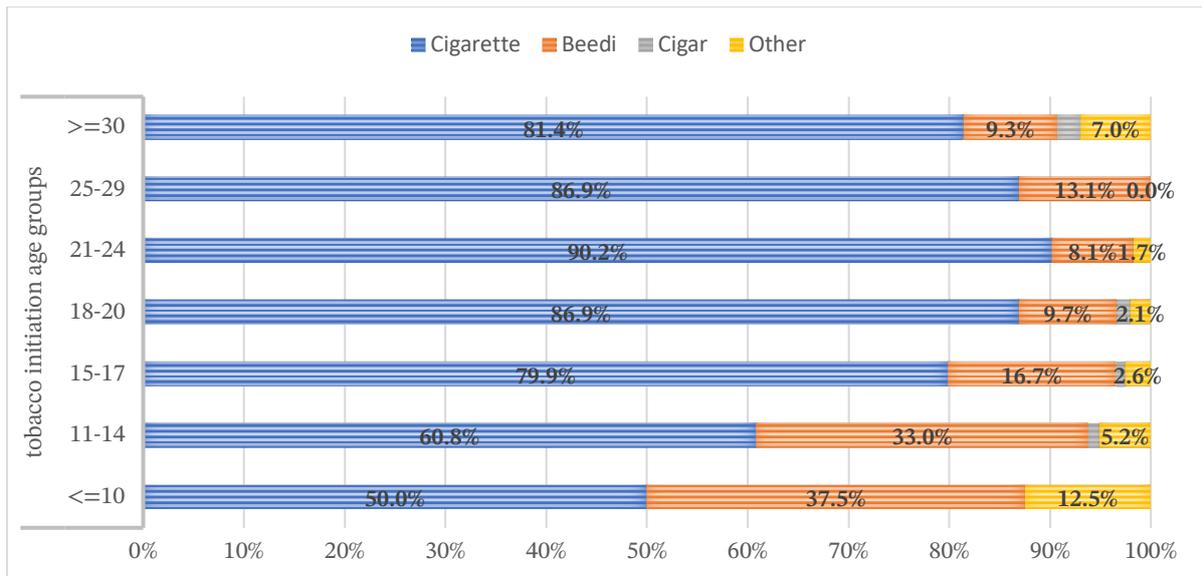


Figure 14: Type of tobacco product used at initiation

At the time of initiation, the highest percentage of users (82.7%) had used cigarettes, while the second highest percentage of users (13.9%) had used beedi. Usage of cigar and other tobacco products is comparatively low.

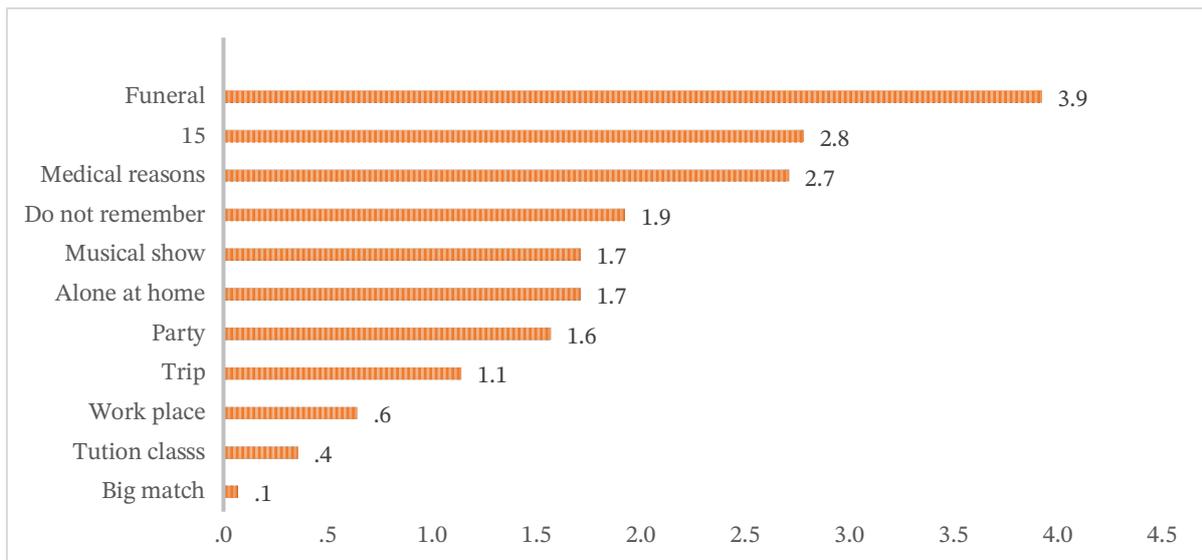


Figure 15: Tobacco initiation occasion

According to the responses obtained by the survey participants, the majority had reported that initiation of tobacco use occurred at public gatherings such as funerals.

### 3.3.5 Cessation of tobacco use



Figure 16: Quitting tobacco use

From the survey participants, 36.5% had been successful in quitting tobacco use at the time of administering the survey.

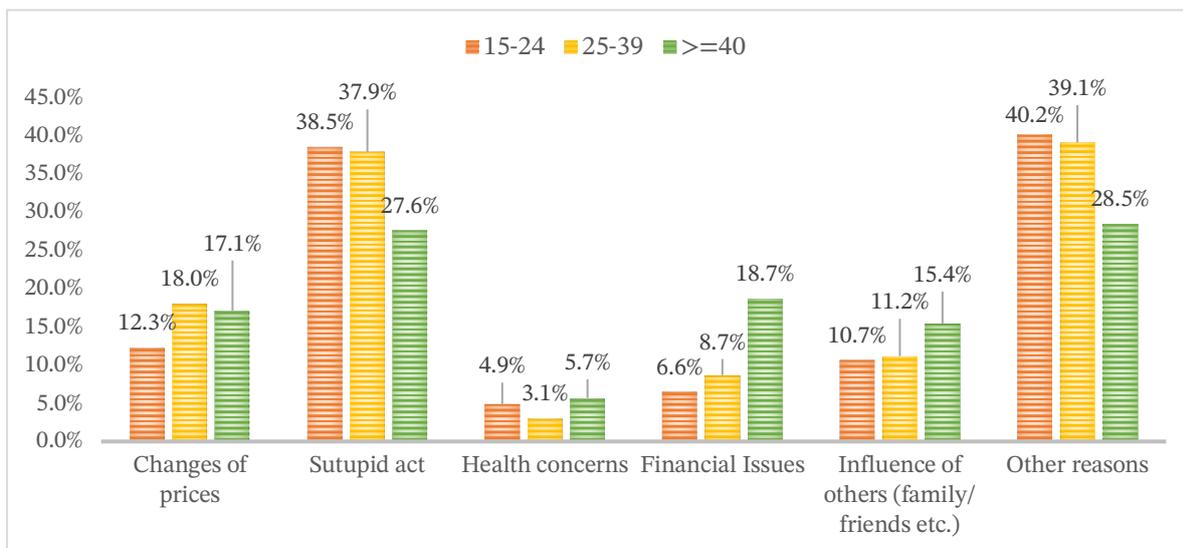


Figure 17: Reasons for quitting tobacco use

During the survey, the survey participants in all three age groups were inquired about the reasons which caused them to change their tobacco usage pattern in the six months prior to the survey. Perceiving tobacco usage as a useless behaviour and price changes were specified as reasons for quitting/ reducing tobacco use by the majority of the survey participants, while financial issues and family influence were also reported as important reasons for the change in tobacco use.

### 3.3.6 Miscellaneous results

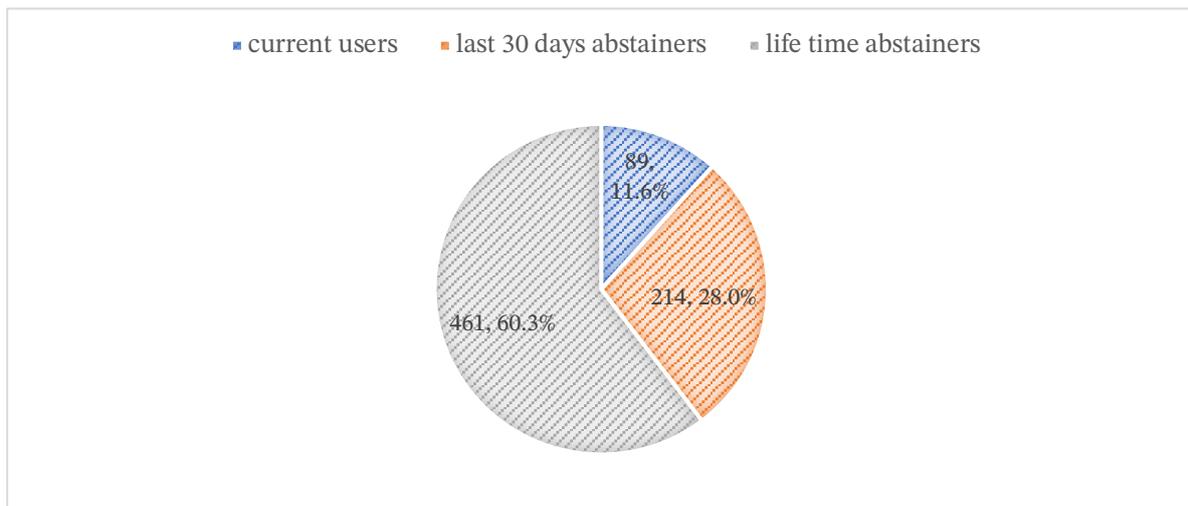


Figure 18: Status of smoking among current smokers below 21 years of age

Through the results obtained from the survey it was identified that there is a percentage of 11.6% between 15-21 years of age who are current smokers, even though the majority (60.3%) of this age group are lifetime abstainers.

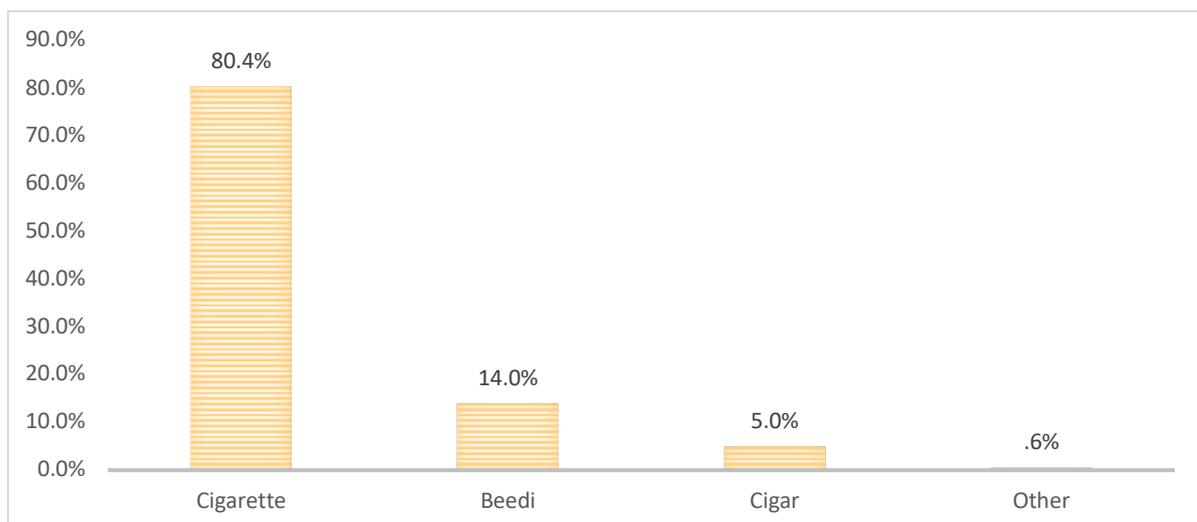


Figure 19: Type of tobacco products used by current smokers below 21 years of age

The majority (80.4%) of the current smokers between 15-21 years of age have reported that they use cigarettes, while the second most used tobacco product among this group of survey participants was reported as beedi (14.0%). Usage of cigar (5.0%) and other tobacco products is comparatively low among this age group (1.3%).

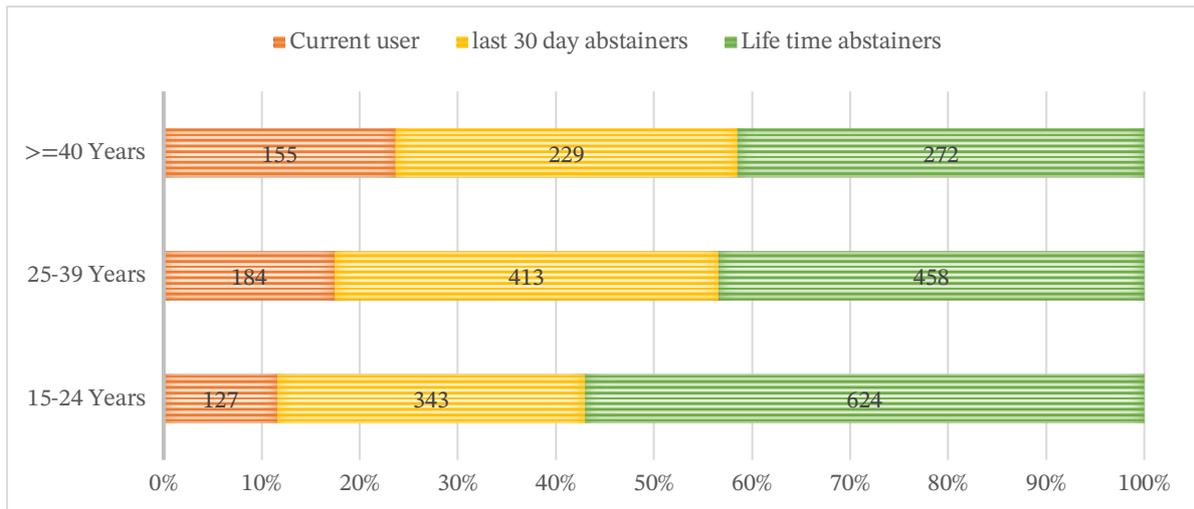


Figure 20: Usage of tobacco products within the three age groups

In all three age categories, lifetime abstainers were prominent. From the three age groups, the highest percentage of lifetime abstainers was present in the age group 15-24 years. Current smokers were highest in the age group 40 years and above.

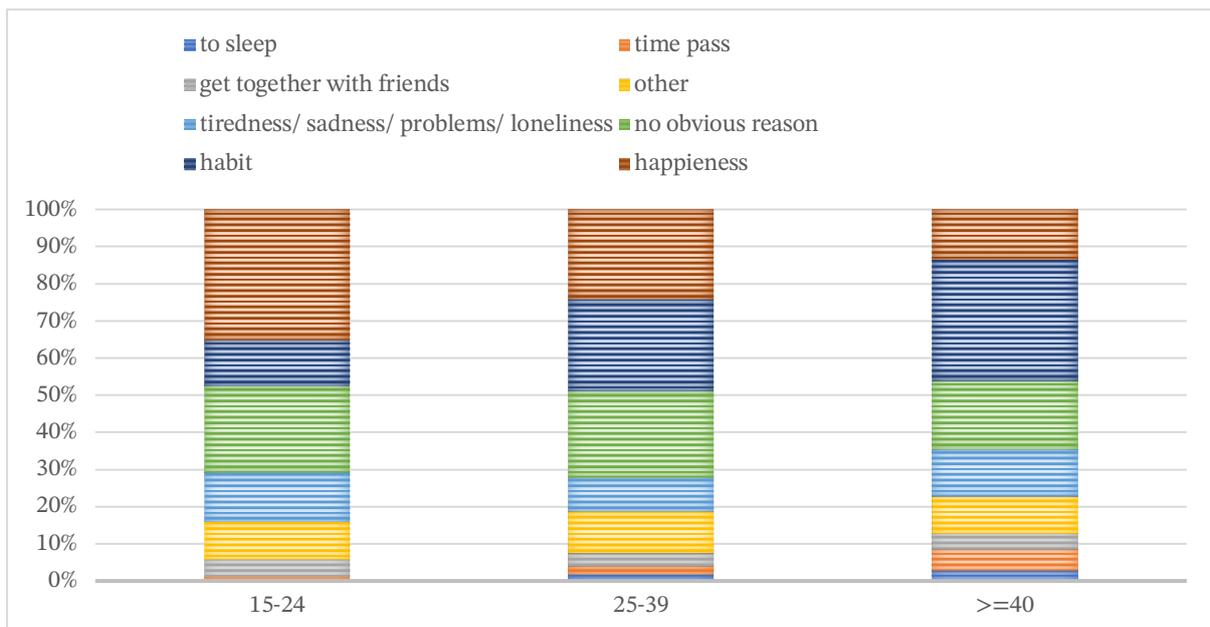


Figure 21: Reasons for smoking given by current smokers among the three age groups

The reasons given by the survey participants in different age groups regarding the reasons for smoking seem to be different from one another, making them controversial.

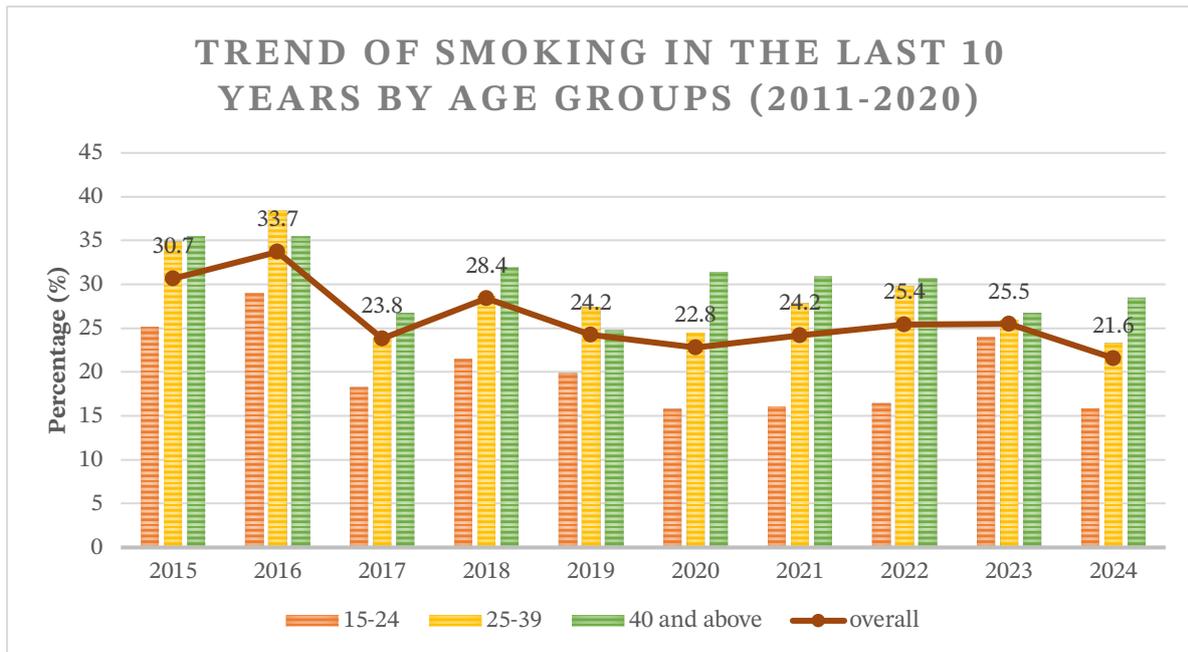


Figure 22: Trend of smoking within the last 10 years

An overall declining trend in tobacco use can be observed during the last ten years.

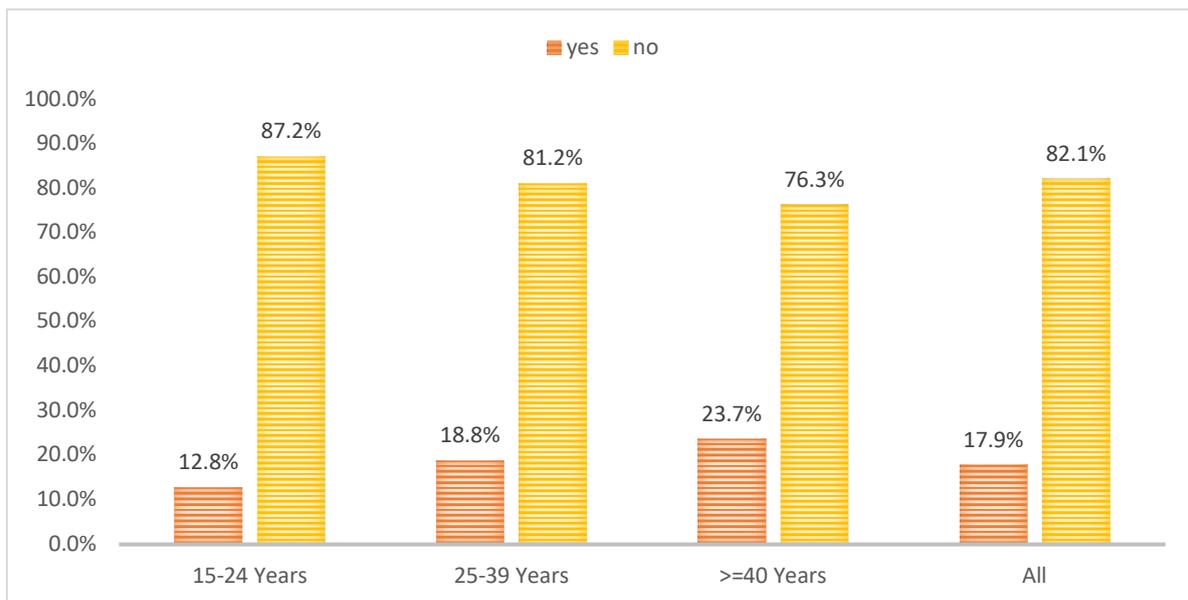


Figure 23: Smoking in the presence of others

During the survey, the current smokers were inquired about whether they have engaged in smoking in the presence of others. According to the obtained data, a majority of current smokers in all three age groups do not smoke in the presence of others.

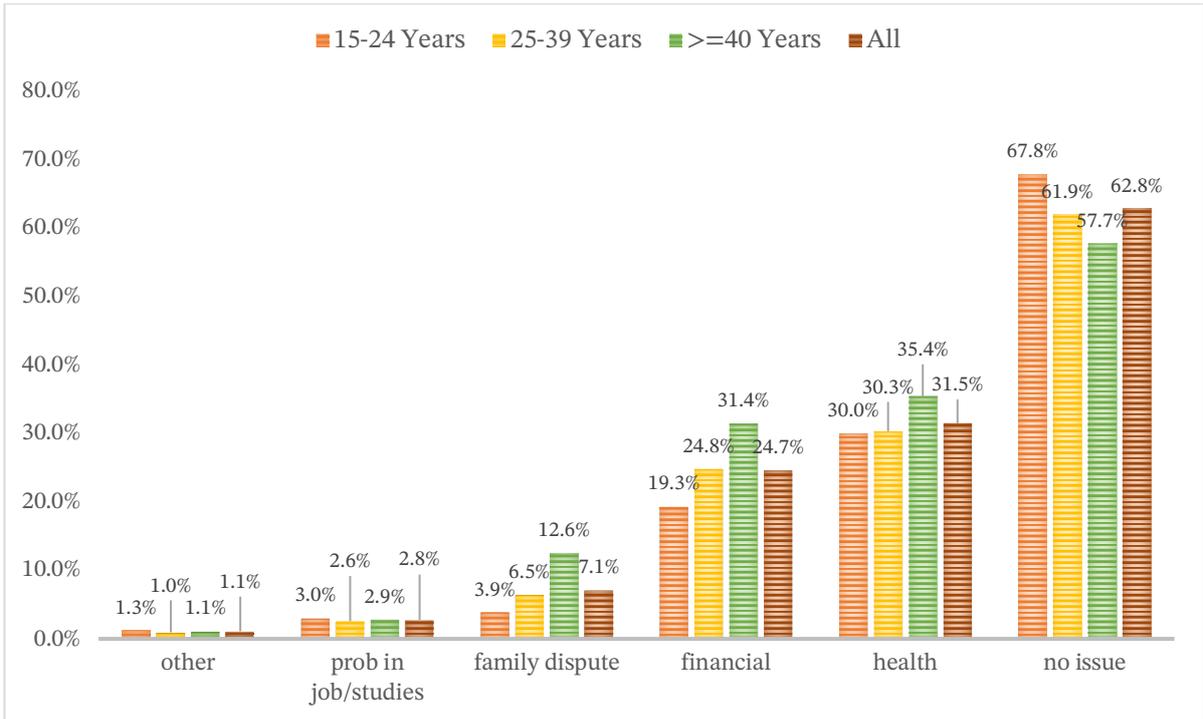


Figure 24: Problems faced by tobacco users

Health issues, financial issues and family dispute have been stated as significant issues faced by the tobacco users due to their tobacco use. The majority of the users have stated that they do not face any issues due to tobacco use. This might be an indication of the low level of knowledge regarding the harm of tobacco use among the majority of the users.

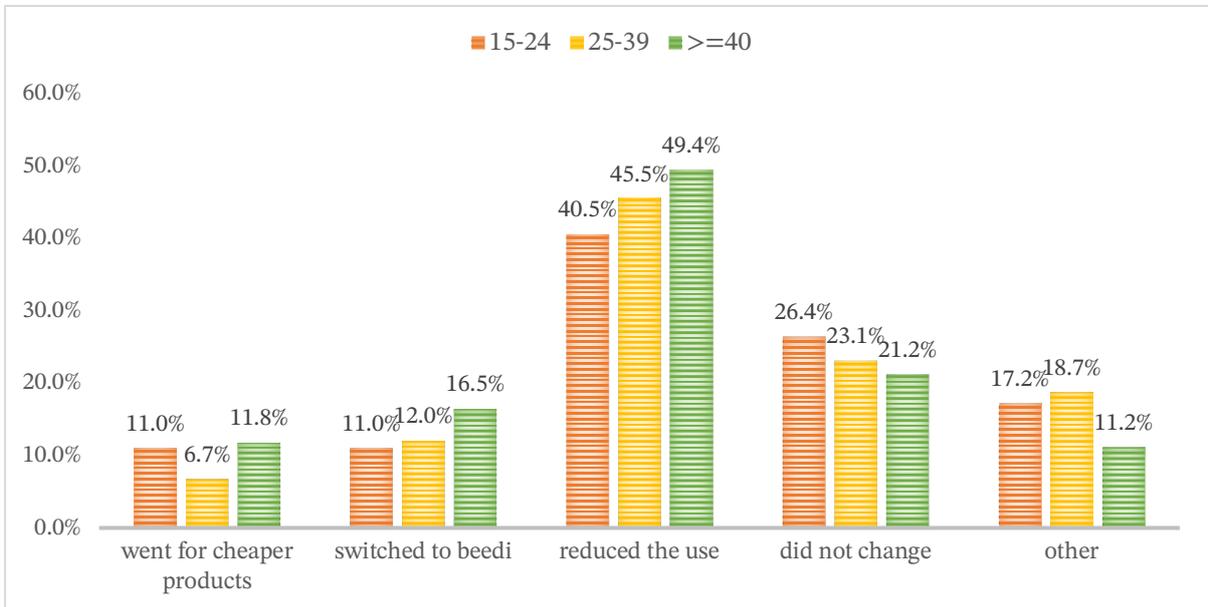


Figure 25: Impact of price changes of cigarettes

The survey participants were inquired about their change in behaviour due to price changes in cigarettes. The majority have reduced their usage, while some have switched to cheaper brands and cheaper tobacco products.

## 4. Discussion

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ADIC has been conducting trend surveys on tobacco usage patterns in Sri Lanka, to identify the status of tobacco use within the country. The data obtained through the surveys are used to advocate for effective implementation of existing tobacco control policies, enforce establishment of new, evidence-based policies and develop target-group based community interventions aimed at tobacco prevention. The present tobacco trend survey provides a detailed overview of tobacco usage patterns in 2024 and the change in tobacco use compared to previous years.

The tobacco epidemic is one of the biggest public health threats the world has ever faced, killing over 8 million people a year around the world. More than 7 million of those deaths result from direct tobacco use while around 1.3 million occur due to non-smokers being exposed to second-hand smoke.<sup>6</sup> Furthermore, tobacco use is a known risk factor for the development of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs), and NCDs have risen to become the primary cause of morbidity and mortality in Sri Lanka.<sup>7</sup> This situation poses a significant threat to the health and well-being of the country's citizens and places a substantial burden on the economy as well. As our country slowly recovers from the severe economic crisis of recent years, the additional strain on the health sector and communities due to tobacco use is unwarranted and therefore, requires careful attention and action.

When considering the districts included in the survey, Ampara district reported the highest tobacco usage. Ampara District is located in the south-east of Sri Lanka in the Eastern Province. The district is one of the most diverse in Sri Lanka, both ethnically and religiously and it has a workforce who mostly engage in crop cultivation, animal husbandry and fishery.<sup>8</sup> According to research conducted by the Institute of Policy Studies (IPS), smokers are more likely to come from households in the lowest wealth quintile, which includes agricultural and fishery workers.<sup>9</sup> Therefore, it can be stipulated that the tobacco usage among these communities is comparatively high due to the nature of their manual labour, as well as the lack of knowledge and awareness about the health, economic and social impact of tobacco use. Cigarettes are the most frequently used tobacco product in Sri Lanka (79%), while beedi (18%), cigars and other types of tobacco products are used in a lesser degree. Although the tobacco industry has consistently argued that beedi users represent the largest segment of tobacco users, this year's study once again confirms that beedi consumption remains significantly lower in comparison to cigarette use.

Regardless of the age category of the survey participants, daily tobacco use is the most prominent. According to the survey, the daily tobacco users mostly belong in the age group 40 years and above. This situation indicates that the users spend a large sum of money on tobacco products daily, contributing to financial hardships within communities. In addition, tobacco use lead to increased economic issues within the country as a whole. According to the most recent data and statistics from the central Bank, cigarette tax revenue in 2019 totalled LKR 92.9 billion, whereas the health and economic costs due to smoking amounted to LKR 214 billion, significantly outweighing the

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<sup>6</sup> <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/tobacco>

<sup>7</sup> <https://adicsrilanka.org/facts-on-tobacco/>

<sup>8</sup> Annual Performance Report & Accounts, District Secretariat, Ampara (2023)

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.ips.lk/talkingeconomics/2020/01/06/tobacco-smoking-in-sri-lanka-going-the-last-mile/>

revenue generated from cigarette excise duty. At a period where the country is gradually recovering from an economic crisis, this unnecessary burden to the country's economy serves as an obstacle to the recovery process, and economic development in the long run.

From the different types of tobacco products, cigarettes are the most popular type among all age groups, occupational sectors and survey locations. Even at initiation of tobacco use, cigarette was reported to be the most prominently used product. And majority of the survey participants had initiated tobacco use between the ages 18-20 years, mostly at public gatherings such as funerals, mostly due to peer pressure and influence. These results are in accordance with similar studies, where peer pressure is a key determinant that drives this behaviour.<sup>10</sup> Therefore, appropriate measures to stop or delay initiations are crucial to address this situation and protect the youth of our country from unhealthy practices such as tobacco use.

A notable 36.5% of the survey participants have quit smoking and 20.9% of the current smokers have reduced their smoking at the time of administering the survey. The most prominent reasons mentioned by the survey participants for quitting/ reducing tobacco use were perceiving tobacco usage as a useless behaviour and price changes. When inquired about their change in behaviour due to price changes of cigarettes, the majority have mentioned that they reduced/ stopped tobacco use. Tax and price increases is a proven measure to reduce tobacco harm, as recommended by the World Health Organization (WHO), which will result in reduced affordability of tobacco products for individuals, leading to reduced tobacco use in the long run. Article 6 of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) specifically encourages price and tax measures as effective means to reduce the demand for tobacco.<sup>11</sup> Therefore, implementing scientific, evidence-based, tax and pricing policies on tobacco products is imperative to successfully address the issues associated with tobacco use in the country. Also, as the country is facing numerous economic challenges at present, introducing indexation to adjust tobacco tax to inflation rates can be considered as a highly effective strategy to improve the government revenue as a solution to the economic challenges. According to Central Bank data and statistics, a 20% increase in excise duty on cigarettes implemented during 2023 have contributed to an increase in government revenue due to cigarette excise duty by LKR 7.7 billion.

Moreover, the survey responses indicate that the majority of the survey participants (62.8%) have stated that they do not face any issues due to tobacco use, implying that most of the tobacco users are unaware of the harms and associated issues related to tobacco use. Therefore, it is a timely need to further disseminate knowledge regarding the health, economic and social impact of tobacco use among more individuals, encouraging them to change their behaviour and improve their overall well-being.

The survey findings further challenge the already established tobacco control policies within Sri Lanka. The National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol Act No. 27 enacted in 2006 imposes legal boundaries on selling tobacco and it is prohibited to sell tobacco products for individuals under the age of 21 years. However, the survey reveals that a percentage of 19.5% between 15-21 years of

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<sup>10</sup> The impact of peer pressure on cigarette smoking among high school and university students in Ethiopia: A systemic review and meta-analysis (<https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC2697961/>)

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.who.int/europe/activities/promoting-taxation-on-tobacco-products#:~:text=The%20World%20Health%20Organization%20recommends,53%20countries%20in%20the%20Region.>

age is current smokers, indicating the prevalence of tobacco sales to underaged individuals even amidst legal prohibitions established within the country. Therefore, it is imperative for educational and other relevant government authorities to take required action to mitigate this situation, to reduce initiations of tobacco use among the youth and children, while contributing to the positive trend of reduced tobacco use within the country.

The following measures are crucial to prevent smoking among underaged individuals.

- Even if the NATA act specifically prohibits tobacco sales to underaged individuals, effective implementation of the NATA act needs to be ensured.
- Prohibiting subtle and direct promotions by the tobacco industry through traditional and social media, which specifically target children.
- Implementing ‘Tobacco-Free Generation’ policy initiative as recommended by the Sri Lanka Medical Association, where the sale of tobacco is banned for all those born after 2010, which will facilitate substantial social and economic gains in the long run.
- Prohibiting tobacco sales within a 100-meter radius of educational institutes.
- Introduce and implement a national-level prevention program to reveal the tactics of the tobacco industry and emphasize smoking as a purposeless and harmful behavior.

Over the past decade, tobacco use in the country has shown a decline, largely due to the effectiveness of significant tobacco control measures such as tax increases, and community-based interventions. Various stakeholders have contributed to this positive trend over the years. However, to sustain and accelerate this progress, drastic policy actions are now necessary. The findings of the survey will provide guidance to all interested organizations and individuals to choose appropriate approaches to strengthen the tobacco control policy background and develop target group-based tobacco prevention interventions in the country.



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