

Statistics on Smoking Habits among Parents with Infants 2014

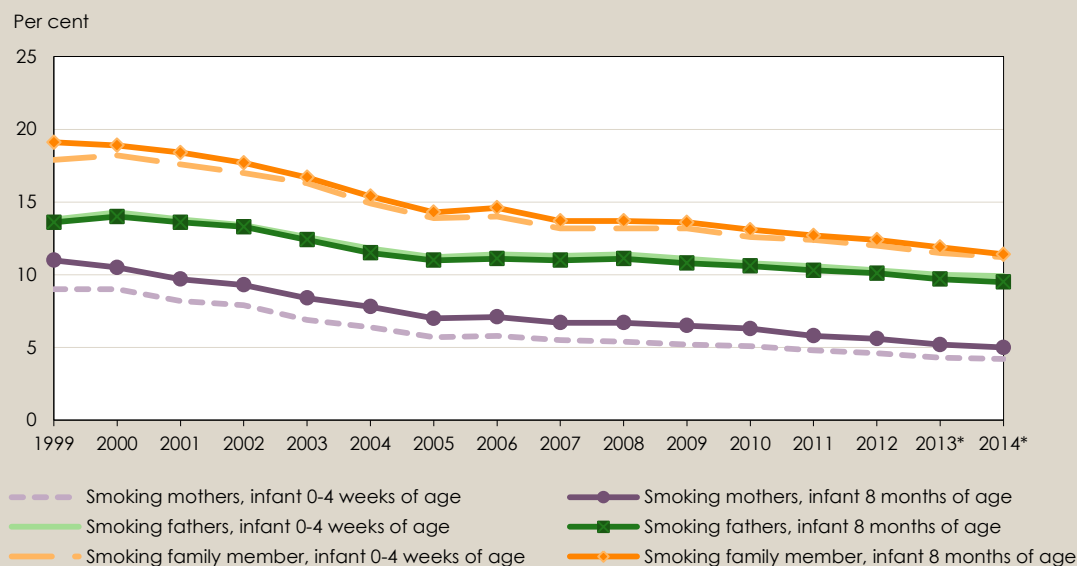
Fifteen years ago, 19 per cent of children at the age of eight months had at least one family member who smoked. By 2014, the proportion had decreased to 11 per cent. Among fathers, 10 per cent smoked and among mothers the proportion was 5 per cent.

Infants exposed to tobacco smoke continues to decrease

The proportion of smokers during infancy decreased the most between 1999 and 2005. In 1999 there were 19 per cent of infants who lived in a home where someone smoked. By 2014 the proportion had decreased to 11 per cent.

Children at the age of eight months had a slightly larger proportion of mothers smoking compared to children 0–4 weeks of age. There were no big differences in the proportions between smoking fathers with infant's 0–4 weeks of age and smoking fathers with infants 8 months of age (see Figure 1).

Figure 1. Smoking habits among parents and total exposure to passive smoking during infancy. Infants born 1999–2014



*Estimated national values for 2013–2014

Source: Statistics on smoking habits among parents of infants, The National Board of Health and Welfare

Exposure to passive smoking during infancy

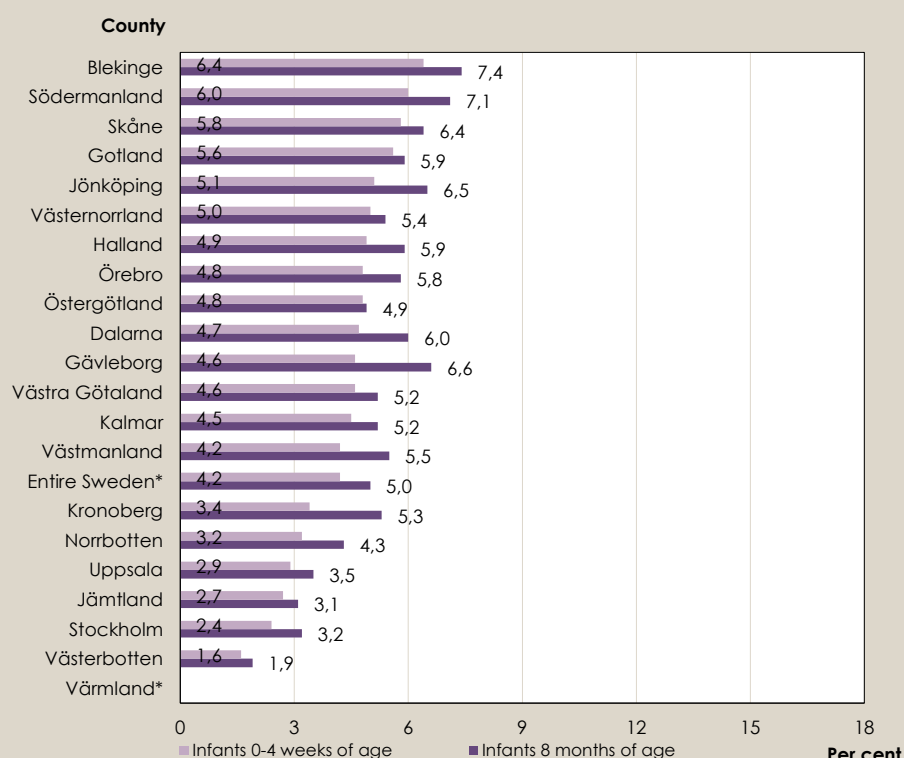
There is a relationship between environmental tobacco smoke and development of respiratory tract diseases in children. Children exposed to tobacco smoke suffer more frequently from respiratory tract infections (including pneumonia and bronchitis) and otitis, and are at increased risk of developing infant asthma, hypersensitivity to pollen, fur animals and food.

Rates of sudden infant death (SIDS) are higher for infants of mothers who smoke during pregnancy or after childbirth (1).

Large regional differences

The smoking rates among parents of infants vary geographically. Among mothers, smoking during infancy was the most common in the counties of Blekinge and Södermanland. The lowest proportion of smoking mothers could be found in the counties of Uppsala, Jämtland, Västerbotten and Norrbotten (see Figure 2).

Figure 2. Mothers who smoke during infancy, by county. Infants born 2014

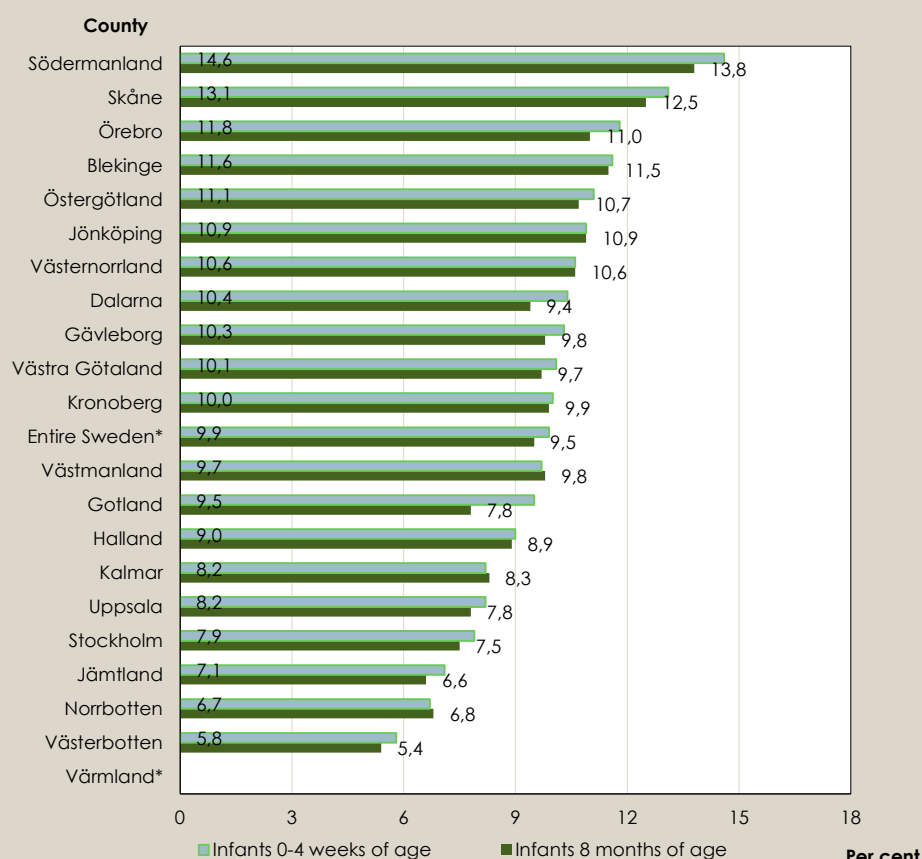


*Estimated national values for 2014 since data is missing from Värmland

Source: Statistics on smoking habits among parents of infants, The National Board of Health and Welfare

The smoking rate for fathers was the highest in the county of Södermanland followed by the counties Skåne and Örebro. The lowest smoking rates among fathers were found in the counties of Jämtland, Västerbotten and Norrbotten followed by the largest populated county Stockholm and its neighboring county Uppsala (see Figure 3).

Figure 3. Fathers who smoke during infancy, by county. Infants born 2014



*Estimated national values for 2014 since data is missing from Värmland

Source: Statistics on smoking habits among parents of infants, The National Board of Health and Welfare

About the statistics on smoking habits among parents of infants

The National Board of Health and Welfare has collected statistics on smoking during infancy since 1999 and include smoking when the infant is 0–4 weeks and 8 months. The information is available at county and municipal levels.

Smoker is defined as a person that is smoking at least once daily (cigarette or other tobacco). People who always smoke outside are also included.

Smoking family member is defined as a person who permanently lives with the child, e.g. older siblings or grandparents or any other who smoke. Permanently refers to a person living at the same address as the child at least 14 days per month.

Quality aspects: for the years 2013–2014 data is missing from the county of Värmland. Stockholm reported insufficient data in 2013. Therefore, the national values for these years are based on estimates.

References

1. Socialstyrelsen. Miljöhälsorapport 2009. Stockholm: Socialstyrelsen; 2009.

More information

You can find more tables, graphs and information in the following Excel file (in Swedish, but with English list of terms):
[www:socialstyrelsen.se/publikationer2016/2016-9-4](http://www.socialstyrelsen.se/publikationer2016/2016-9-4)

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