

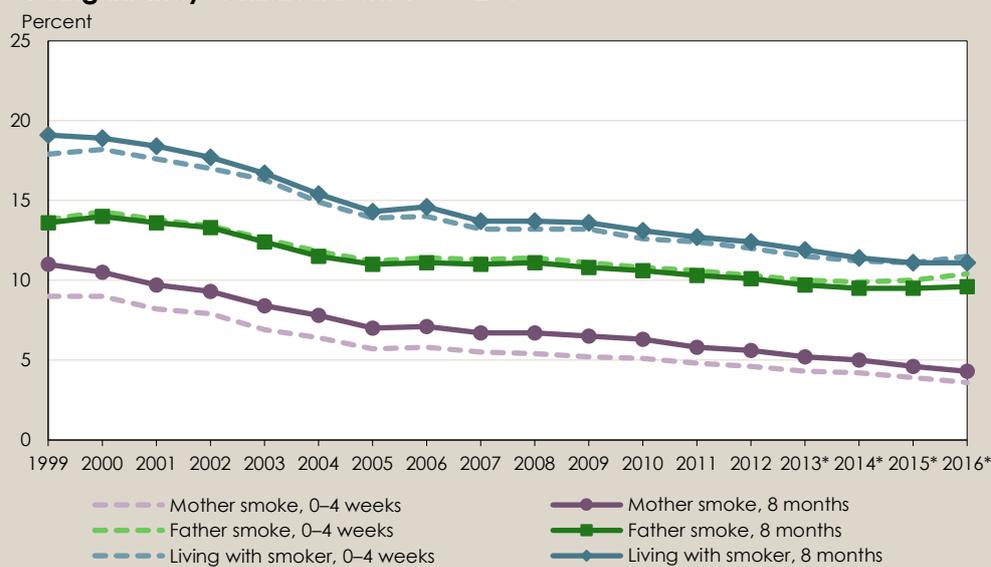
# Statistics on Smoking Habits among Parents with Infants 2016

**Smoking among mothers with infants continues to decrease. Over the last 15 years, the proportion of children whose mothers smoke has more than halved, to about 4 percent in 2016, both in the infant's first weeks and at the age of 8 months. Smoking among fathers with infants has also decreased over time, but to a lesser extent.**

## Fewer mothers smoke

Around 11 percent of the children born in 2016 had someone in their home environment who smoked during infancy, which is the same as in 2015. This is a decrease compared with 1999, when about 18 percent of the youngest infants lived with someone who smoked and just over 19 percent at 8 months of age (see figure 1).

**Figure 1. Children with smoking parents and children living with smokers during infancy. Children born 1999–2016**



\* Estimated value 2013–2016

Source: Statistics on Smoking Habits among Parents with Infants, The National Board of Health and Welfare

It is mainly smoking among mothers that has decreased since 1999, when 9 percent of infants aged 0–4 weeks had mothers who smoked daily. For children born in 2016, the proportion whose mothers smoked during their first weeks decreased to less than 4 percent, and just over 4 percent at 8 months of age. Fathers smoking during infancy has also decreased during the period from almost 14

percent in 1999 to around 10 percent in recent years. A slightly higher proportion of the children born in 2016 had smoking fathers during their first weeks compared to the year 2015. It is too early to say whether the increase is temporary or not.

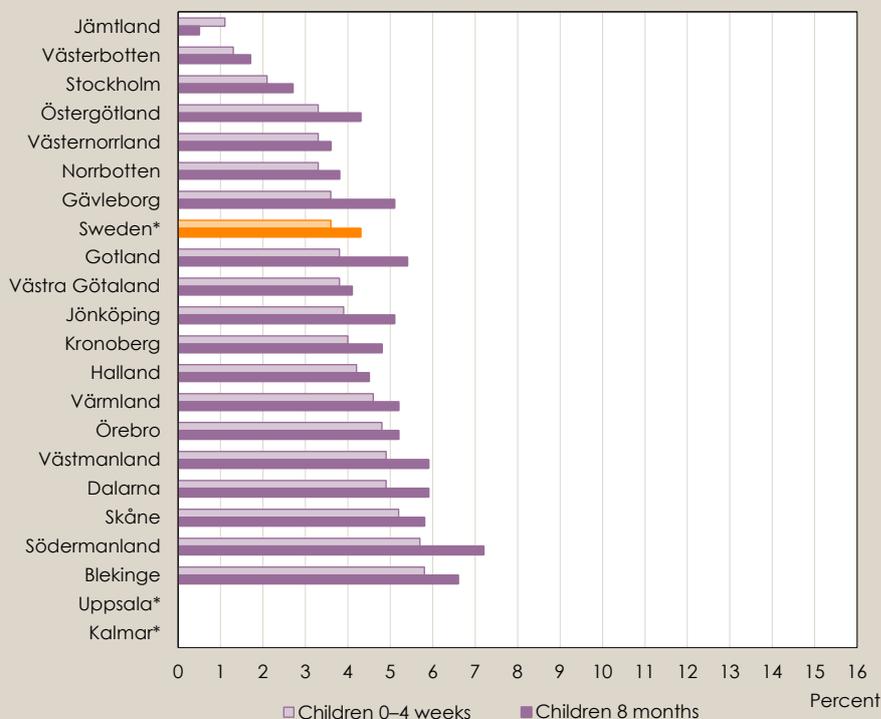
*Smoker* refers to a person who smokes at least once per day, i.e., inhales smoke from a cigarette, cigarillo, cigar, pipe tobacco or any other tobacco product. Persons who always smoke outside are also included.

*Smoker in the child's home environment* refers to any person permanently living with the child who smokes according to the definition, for example parents, older siblings or grandparent. Permanently refers to the person living at the same address as the child at least 14 days per month.

## Regional differences in smoking habits

The smoking habits of parents with infants vary between the counties. In 2016, the proportion of children with smoking parents was lowest in the county of Jämtland and Västerbotten. Here, the proportion of children with mothers who smoked was around 1 percent at 0–4 weeks of age and less than 2 percent at 8 months of age.

**Figure 2. Children with mothers who smoke during infancy, by county. Children born 2016**



\*Missing data for Uppsala and Kalmar, estimated value for Sweden.

Source: Statistics on Smoking Habits among Parents with Infants, The National Board of Health and Welfare

Slightly below 6 percent of the children in Västerbotten county had fathers who smoked daily during the child's first weeks and in Jämtland county the corresponding figure was just over 7 percent.

**Figure 3. Children with fathers who smoke during infancy, by county. Children born 2016**



\*Missing data for Uppsala and Kalmar, estimated value for Sweden.

Source: Statistics on Smoking Habits among Parents with Infants, The National Board of Health and Welfare

Smoking among parents with infants was most common in Södermanland county. Nearly 6 percent of the children born in 2016 had smoking mothers at 0–4 weeks of age and just over 7 percent around 8 months of age. About 15 percent of the children had smoking fathers when they were 0–4 weeks old and at 8 months of age.

### 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/publikationer2018/2018-10-24](http://www.socialstyrelsen.se/publikationer2018/2018-10-24)

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