## INTERACT FOR HEALTH

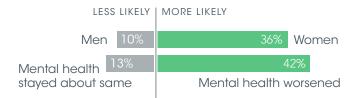
# SMOKING DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

While we do not yet know the extent of the pandemic's impact on smoking, many ripple effects—such as increased stress, job or income loss, social isolation and lack of child care—may have stalled progress to reduce smoking in Greater Cincinnati. National tobacco sales increased and call volumes to state quit lines decreased in 2020.<sup>1,2</sup> The **Greater Cincinnati COVID-19 Health Issues Survey** asked Greater Cincinnati adults how the pandemic has affected their smoking habits.

Among current adult smokers, since pandemic began in March 2020 ... 23%

smoke more frequently

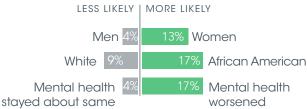
### SOME SMOKERS MORE LIKELY THAN OTHERS TO REPORT SMOKING MORE FREQUENTLY

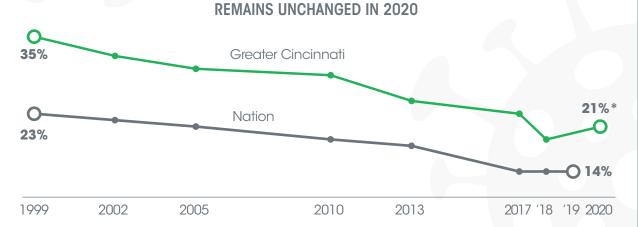


9%

started smoking again after having previously auit

#### SOME MORE LIKELY TO START AGAIN





DESPITE DECADES OF PROGRESS, PERCENTAGE OF ADULT CURRENT SMOKERS

## For help quitting

#### **Quit Culture**

Join the movement to change the culture of smoking in Greater Cincinnati's Black communities at **quitculture.com**.



Text **QUIT** to **47848** to receive daily text message support.



Call **1-800-QUIT-NOW** for over-the-phone support.

<sup>1</sup>Lee, B. P., Dodge, J.L., Leventhal, A., & Terrault, N.A. (2021) Retail alcohol and tobacco sales during COVID-19. Annals of internal medicine, M20-7271. Retrieved from: <a href="https://bit.ly/35IH8DC/">https://bit.ly/35IH8DC/</a>
<sup>2</sup> North American Quitline Consortium. (2021).

<sup>2</sup> North American Quitline Consortium. (2021). Report on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on smoking cessation. Retrieved from: https://bit.ly/3xnnhAe

The Greater Cincinnati COVID-19 Health Issues Survey was conducted between Oct. 7 and Nov. 17, 2020, to understand adult behaviors, attitudes and opinions related to the COVID-19 pandemic. A random sample of 879 adults from Greater Cincinnati was interviewed by telephone (329 landline and 520 cell phone interviews), including an oversample of African American residents. The potential margin of error for the survey is ±3.3%. The survey is a project of Interact for Health and conducted by the Institute for Policy Research at the University of Cincinnati. For more information, please visit <a href="https://www.interactforhealth.org/about-covid-19-survey">www.interactforhealth.org/about-covid-19-survey</a>.

<sup>\*</sup> The percentage of adult current smokers in Greater Cincinnati did not change between 2018 (19%) and 2020 (21%).

SOURCES: Greater Cincinnati data from the Community Health Status Survey, Greater Cincinnati Adult Tobacco Survey and Greater Cincinnati COVID-19 Health Issues Survey; national data from the National Health Interview Survey. National data for 2020 not yet released.