

Table 1 Prevalence of current smoking in Middle East countries

Variables	No. of studies (population)	Cigarette smoking		Test for heterogeneity	Waterpipe smoking		Test for heterogeneity
		NR	Prevalence (95% CI)	P	NR	Prevalence (95% CI)	P
Country				< 0.001			< 0.001
Saudi Arabia	9 (37998)	9	26.89 (16.72–43.26)		3	8.59 (2.80–26.36)	
Oman	1 (1191)	1	9.9 (8.2–11.7)		1	1.1 (0.6–1.9)	
Syria	2 (3523)	2	23.91 (11.21–51.02)		1	1.3 (0.9–1.9)	
Türkiye	5 (19713)	5	21.45 (11.11–41.39)		–	–	
Palestine	1 (502)	1	20.9 (17.4–24.7)		1	20.9 (17.4–24.7)	
Lebanon	7 (12782)	6	17.90 (13.23–24.23)		7	13.77 (7.31–25.91)	
United Arab Emirates	3 (180195)	3	11.95 (8.90–16.03)		1	4.9 (4.4–5.3)	
Kuwait	2 (6479)	2	17.71 (4.60–68.12)		–	–	
Cyprus	2 (3532)	2	31.40 (25.86–38.13)		–	–	
Israel	3 (12688)	3	25.24 (22.42–28.42)		–	–	
Iraq	2 (500)	2	32.0 (20.20–50.69)		1	25.0 (19.1–31.6)	
Bahrain	1 (152)	1	2.6 (0.7–6.6)		1	5.9 (2.7–10.9)	
Jordan	12 (8619)	12	24.80 (20.30–30.31)		6	10.31 (4.10–25.93)	
Egypt	5 (36990)	5	13.62 (9.69–19.15)		3	10.09(3.28–30.97)	
Islamic Republic of Iran	33 (419837)	30	13.48 (9.66–18.81)		16	7.21 (4.67–11.14)	
Qatar	2 (259)	2	8.86 (6.28–12.48)		–	–	
Total (Middle East)	90 (744960)		17.41 (13.76–22.03)		41	6.92 (3.70–12.93)	
sex				< 0.001			0.03
Female	58 (180208)	58	4.09 (3.19–5.25)		25	5.05 (3.08–8.29)	
Male	66 (252025)	66	24.86 (21.57–28.65)		29	9.55 (6.80–13.40)	
Residency				0.91			0.66
Urban	6 (74723)	6	12.98 (8.82–19.08)		2	6.40 (0.79–51.87)	
Rural	6 (53983)	6	13.45 (8.09–22.36)		2	3.99 (3.00–5.29)	
Year of publication				< 0.001			0.002
2000-2003	1(3859)	1	8.8 (5.8–11.9)		–	–	
2004-2007	8 (5727)	8	14.90 (9.29–23.90)		1	11.3 (9.1–13.8)	
2008-2011	14 (96437)	14	22.25 (17.48–28.33)		8	6.03 (3.96–9.17)	
2012-2015	29(264411)	28	20.44 (15.39–27.16)		16	6.18 (3.95–9.65)	
2016-2020	38(374928)	35	15.04 (11.20–20.21)		16	13.83 (9.68–19.76)	
Age group, yr				0.28			< 0.001
18-29	7 (215325)	7	12.98 (8.00–21.05)		1	4.00 (2.8–5.4)	
30-39	7 (215325)	7	16.92 (9.12–31.37)		1	3.6 (2.4–5.0)	
40-49	8 (220515)	8	14.66 (9.06–23.70)		2	0.95 (0.33–2.70)	
50-59	5 (212447)	5	13.21 (9.32–18.72)		2	0.76 (0.44–1.32)	
≥ 60	5 (212447)	5	8.84 (6.19–12.61)		2	0.84 (0.31–2.27)	

CI = confidence interval; NR = number of reports.