
American Lung Association of California
Center for Tobacco Policy and Organizing
Statewide Apartment Renter Study
Released August, 2004

Number of respondents = 602

1. Do you live in public housing, or in a privately owned apartment building or courtyard? By public housing, I mean an apartment building that is operated or managed by a government agency or a non-profit agency. By privately-owned, I mean a building that is owned by an individual or a private company.

Public ----- 14%
Private ----- 83
Other ----- 0
DK/NA ----- 3

2. OK, now I want to ask your views on issues related to second-hand smoke. Second-hand smoke refers to tobacco smoke that is inhaled by people who are not smoking themselves, but are near people who are smoking. Would you say that second-hand smoke is is or is not harmful to people who inhale it?

Is harmful ----- 90%
Is not harmful ----- 6
DK/NA ----- 4

3. Would you say that second-hand smoke is very harmful to people who inhale it, somewhat harmful, or not too harmful?

Very harmful ----- 70%
Somewhat harmful ----- 27
Not too harmful ----- 2
DK/NA ----- 1

4. Have you personally ever inhaled second-hand smoke?

Yes ----- 94%
No ----- 5
DK/NA ----- 1

5. Just based on your sense of things, do you think that second-hand smoke can drift from one apartment to another in an apartment building?

Yes ----- 59%
No ----- 34
DK/NA ----- 7

6. And do you think that second-hand smoke can drift from outside an apartment building into an apartment?

Yes ----- 72%
No ----- 25
DK/NA ----- 3

7. Have you ever experienced second-hand smoke drifting into your apartment?

Yes ----- 46%
No ----- 53
DK/NA ----- 1

8. Now, I want to ask you specifically about possible laws to limit smoking in apartment buildings to protect non-smokers from second-hand smoke. Do you think there is a strong need for laws to protect non-smokers from second-hand smoke, some need, not much need, or no need at all for such laws?

Strong need ----- 27%
 Some need ----- 35
 Not much need ----- 12
 No need ----- 24
 Depends ----- 1
 DK/NA ----- 2

9. Now, did you know that current laws prohibit smoking in indoor common areas of apartment buildings, such as the lobby, stairwells, and laundry rooms, or is this something you were not aware of until now?

Yes ----- 39%
 No, was not aware of ----- 59
 Other ----- 1
 DK/NA ----- 2

10. In the apartment building where you live, are the laws against smoking in indoor common areas always enforced, usually but not always enforced, occasionally enforced, or are they never enforced?

Always enforced ----- 25%
 Usually enforced ----- 8
 Occasionally enforced ----- 11
 Never enforced ----- 32
 Depends ----- 2
 DK/NA ----- 22

11. Now, would you favor or oppose a law in your community limiting smoking in outdoor common areas of apartment buildings, such as entry ways, swimming pools, and courtyards? (STR= Strongly; S.W. = Somewhat)

	STR.	S.W.	S.W.	STR.	DK
	<u>FAV</u>	<u>FAV</u>	<u>OPP</u>	<u>OPP</u>	<u>NA</u>
Outdoor -----	41%	26%	11%	18%	4%

12. Does your apartment building currently have any rules limiting smoking in outdoor common areas, such as entry ways, swimming pools, or courtyards?

Yes ----- 22%
 No ----- 64
 DK/NA ----- 14

Now, I'd like your reaction to some ideas people have proposed to reduce the impact of second-hand smoke on non-smokers who live in apartment buildings.

13. First, would you favor or oppose a law requiring landlords in your community to inform new tenants if there is a smoker in the apartment next door to the one they are about to rent?

	STR.	S.W.	S.W.	STR.	DK
	<u>FAV</u>	<u>FAV</u>	<u>OPP</u>	<u>OPP</u>	<u>NA</u>
inform -----	41%	20%	13%	23%	3%

14. Next, some people have proposed a law requiring all apartment buildings in your community to offer non-smoking sections, where all the apartments, patios, and balconies in that section were smoke-free. This would be similar to the way that hotels offer non-smoking floors. Does this proposed law requiring non-smoking apartment sections sound like something you would favor or oppose?

	STR.	S.W.	S.W.	STR.	DK
	<u>FAV</u>	<u>FAV</u>	<u>OPP</u>	<u>OPP</u>	<u>NA</u>
Non-smoking section -----	45%	24%	11%	17%	3%

15. Let's say there is a law limiting smoking in apartments, and a tenant signs a lease that specifies that smoking is not permitted. Do you think that tenant should or should not be evicted from their apartment for repeat violations of those laws?

Definitely should -----	43%
Probably should-----	27
Probably should not-----	10
Definitely should not -----	15
DK/NA -----	5

16. How would you feel about a three-step process for enforcing these laws? Step one would be educating all tenants about the apartment building's no-smoking policies. Step two would be three separate warnings if a tenant violates the building's non-smoking policy, along with information about local programs to help people stop smoking. The final step would be eviction if there is a fourth violation.

Does this process sound fair, or unfair, to apartment dwellers who smoke?

Very fair -----	43%
SW fair-----	28
SW unfair -----	9
Very unfair-----	17
Other -----	1
DK/NA -----	3

17. If your apartment building changed the rules so it was entirely smoke-free, are there places near by that people could use to smoke, such as lawns, sidewalks, or parking lots?

Yes -----	83%
No-----	14
DK/NA -----	4

18. If you were living in an apartment building, and you had a choice, would you prefer to live in one in which smoking is not allowed anywhere, or one in which smoking is allowed everywhere, or one that has separate non-smoking and smoking areas?

No smoking anywhere -----	39%
Smoking allowed everywhere-----	14
Separate smoking/Non-smoking areas----	43
OTHER-----	1
NONE-----	1
DK/NA -----	3

19. Which of the following statements in each pair comes closest to describing your landlord or the person who manages the apartment building where you live?

[] A. Lives in your apartment building ----- 48%

OR

[] B. Lives somewhere else -----	47
Other/None-----	0
DK/NA -----	5
[] C. Listens to your concerns and is generally responsive-----	74%
OR	
[] D. Does not listen to your concerns or generally does not respond to them-----	21
Other/None-----	2
DK/NA -----	3
[] E. Usually enforces the rules and keeps order -----	73%
OR	
[] F. Usually does not enforce the rules and lets tenants get away with too much -----	20
Other/None-----	2
DK/NA -----	5

20. Does your landlord or apartment manager smoke? If you are not sure, just say so.

Yes -----	12%
No-----	38
DK/NA -----	50

21. Do any children live in your apartment building?

Yes -----	73%
No-----	25
DK/NA -----	2

22. Do any senior citizens live in your apartment building?

Yes -----	66%
No-----	28
DK/NA -----	6

23. Is there anyone living in your apartment building with chronic heart or lung diseases, such as asthma or emphysema?

Yes -----	25%
No-----	26
DK/NA -----	49

NOW FOR A FEW BACKGROUND QUESTIONS.

24. Are you currently registered to vote, or are you not registered to vote for any reason?

Registered to vote-----	65%
Not registered -----	34
DK/NA -----	1

25. Are you registered to vote as a Democrat, as a Republican, as a nonpartisan voter, as a Green Party member, as a Libertarian party member, or as a member of some other party?

Democrat -----	48%
Republican -----	21
Nonpartisan -----	12

Green -----	3
Libertarian -----	2
Other Party -----	4
Don't Know/None/Refused -----	11

26. How would you describe yourself politically?

Liberal -----	30%
Middle Of The Road -----	35
or Conservative -----	25
DK/NA -----	11

27. How many years have you lived in your current apartment?

Less than 1 year -----	9%
1-2 years -----	21
2-4 years -----	38
5-10 years -----	21
10+ years -----	11

28. Including your own apartment, about how many units are there in the apartment building or courtyard where you live?

1-5 -----	12%
6-10 -----	20
11-20 -----	14
21-50 -----	20
51-100 -----	15
101+ -----	13
Not Sure -----	6

29. Most people think of themselves as belonging to a particular ethnic or racial group. What ethnic or racial group are you a member of?

White -----	51%
Black/African-American -----	8
Asian -----	6
Hispanic/Latino -----	19
Native American -----	1
Mixed Race -----	2
Other -----	7
REFUSED/DK -----	7

30. Is there a tobacco smoker in your immediate household?

Yes -----	27%
No -----	72
DK/NA -----	1

31. Do you allow smoking inside your home?

Yes -----	20%
No -----	80%
DK/NA -----	1

32. Have you, yourself, smoked any tobacco in the past week?

Yes -----	22%
-----------	-----

- No----- 78
DK/NA -----0
33. Whether or not you are currently a smoker, have you ever been a regular tobacco smoker?
- Yes ----- 29%
No----- 70
Depends -----0
DK/NA -----0
34. Do you or does anyone in your immediate family have a chronic illness which is made worse by exposure to second hand smoke?
- Yes ----- 20%
No----- 77
DK/NA -----3
35. What language do you speak most frequently in your home?
- English----- 78%
Spanish ----- 15
Chinese/Mandarin/Cantonese ----- 1
Vietnamese -----0
Russian ----- 1
Tagalog -----0
Other Asian ----- 1
Other----- 3
Depends ----- 1
Refused/DK -----0
36. What was the last level of school you completed?
- LESS THAN GRADE 12----- 11%
GRADE 12 ----- 21
LESS THAN 4 YRS OF COLLEGE----- 18
COLLEGE GRADUATE (4)----- 32
POST GRADUATE WORK/
PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL ----- 17
REFUSED ----- 1
37. Which of the following categories includes your age?
- 18-24----- 16%
25-34----- 30
35-44----- 18
45-54----- 15
55-64----- 9
65-74----- 7
75 or older ----- 4
REFUSED ----- 2
38. I don't need to know the exact amount, but please stop me when I read the **category** that includes the total income for your household before taxes in 2003? Was it:
- \$20,000 and under----- 28%
\$20,001 - \$40,000----- 27
\$40,001 - \$70,000----- 21
\$70,001 - \$100,000----- 8
\$100,000 or more ----- 5
Refused ----- 12