

# Non Communicable Diseases Risk Factor STEPS Survey 2013 Nepal Fact Sheet



The STEPS survey of chronic disease risk factors in Nepal was carried out from July 2012 to June 2013. Nepal carried out Step 1, Step 2 and Step 3. Socio demographic and behavioural information was collected in Step 1. Physical measurements such as height, weight and blood pressure were collected in Step 2. Biochemical measurements were collected to assess blood glucose and cholesterol levels in Step 3. The STEPS survey in Nepal was a population-based survey of adults aged 15-69. A multistage sample design was used to produce representative data for that age range in Nepal. A total of 4143 adults participated in the Nepal STEPS survey. The overall response rate was 99 % for Steps 1&2 and 90% for Step 3. A repeat survey is planned for 2017/18 if funds permit.

Results for adults aged 15-69 years (incl. 95% CI)	Both Sexes	Males	Females
<b>Step 1 Tobacco Use</b>			
Percentage who currently smoke tobacco	18.5 (16.5-20.5)	27.0 (23.7-30.4)	10.3 (8.7-11.9)
Percentage who currently smoke tobacco daily	15.8 (13.8-17.7)	22.1 (18.9-25.4)	9.6 (8.1-11.2)
<i>For those who smoke tobacco daily</i>			
Average age started smoking (years)	18.2 (17.7-18.7)	18.5 (17.8-19.1)	17.6 (16.9-18.4)
Percentage of daily smokers smoking manufactured cigarettes	84.8 (80.2-89.4)	89.9 (85.0-94.9)	73.5 (66.3-80.6)
Mean number of manufactured cigarettes smoked per day (by smokers of manufactured cigarettes)	6.2 (5.5-6.8)	6.6 (5.8-7.4)	5.1 (4.4-5.8)
<b>Step 1 Alcohol Consumption</b>			
Percentage who are lifetime abstainers	73.5 (70.7-76.3)	58.0 (53.5-62.6)	88.3 (85.9-90.7)
Percentage who are past 12 month abstainers	4.5 (3.6-5.4)	6.8 (5.2-8.5)	2.3 (1.6-3.0)
Percentage who currently drink (drank alcohol in the past 30 days)	17.4 (15.0-19.7)	28.0 (24.3-31.8)	7.1 (5.2-9.0)
Percentage who engage in heavy episodic drinking (men who had 5 or more / women who had 4 or more drinks on any day in the past 30 days)		18.6 (15.3-21.9)	2.9 (2.0-3.8)
<b>Step 1 Fruit and Vegetable Consumption (in a typical week)</b>			
Mean number of days fruit consumed	1.9 (1.8-2.1)	1.9 (1.8-2.2)	1.9 (1.7-2.1)
Mean number of servings of fruit consumed on average per day	0.5 (0.4-0.5)	0.5 (0.4-0.6)	0.5 (0.4-0.5)
Mean number of days vegetables consumed	4.8 (4.6-4.9)	4.8 (4.6-5.0)	4.8 (4.6-4.9)
Mean number of servings of vegetables consumed on average per day	1.4 (1.3-1.4)	1.4 (1.3-1.5)	1.3 (1.3-1.4)
Percentage who ate less than 5 servings of fruit and/or vegetables on average per day	98.9 (98.4-99.4)	98.9 (98.1-99.6)	98.9 (98.3-99.5)
<b>Step 1 Physical Activity</b>			
Percentage with low levels of activity (defined as < 600 MET-minutes per week)*	3.5 (2.6-4.3)	4.5 (3.1-5.9)	2.4 (1.8-3.0)
Percentage with high levels of activity (defined as ≥ 3000 MET-minutes per week)*	85.0 (83.0-87.0)	83.6 (80.7-86.4)	86.3 (84.2-88.4)
Median time spent in physical activity on average per day (minutes) (presented with inter-quartile range)	240.0 (143.65-360.0)	242.1 (135.0-381.4)	240.0 (150.0-360.0)
Percentage not engaging in vigorous activity	53.6 (50.1-57.1)	43.5 (39.1-47.9)	63.3 (59.4-67.2)

\* For complete definitions of low and high levels of physical activity, other conditions are specified in the GPAQ Analysis Guide, available at: <http://www.who.int/chp/steps/GPAQ/en/index.html>

# Non Communicable Diseases Risk Factor STEPS Survey 2013 Nepal Fact Sheet



Results for adults aged 18-69 years (incl. 95% CI)	Both Sexes	Males	Females
<b>Step 2 Physical Measurements</b>			
Mean body mass index - BMI (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	22.4 (22.2-22.6)	22.4 (22.1-22.7)	22.4 (22.2-22.7)
Percentage who are overweight (BMI ≥ 25 kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	21.6 (19.5-23.8)	21.2 (18.1-24.2)	22.1 (19.8-24.4)
Percentage who are obese (BMI ≥ 30 kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	4.0 (3.1-4.8)	3.1 (2.0-4.3)	4.8 (3.7-5.9)
Average waist circumference (cm)		79.8 (79.0-80.7)	76.7 (76.0-77.5)
Mean systolic blood pressure - SBP (mmHg), including those currently on medication for raised BP	127.4 (126.5-128.3)	131.1 (129.9-132.3)	123.9 (122.8-124.9)
Mean diastolic blood pressure - DBP (mmHg), including those currently on medication for raised BP	79.8 (79.2-80.4)	81.2 (80.2-82.2)	78.5 (77.8-79.1)
Percentage with raised BP (SBP ≥ 140 and/or DBP ≥ 90 mmHg or currently on medication for raised BP)	25.7 (23.5-27.9)	31.1 (27.7-34.5)	20.6 (18.5-22.7)
Percentage with raised BP (SBP ≥ 140 and/or DBP ≥ 90 mmHg) who are not currently on medication for raised BP	88.3 (85.9-90.7)	89.1 (85.9-92.3)	87.1 (83.8-90.5)
<b>Step 3 Biochemical Measurement</b>			
Mean fasting blood glucose, including those currently on medication for raised blood glucose (mg/dl)	91.5 (90.0-92.9)	93.4 (91.2-95.6)	89.7 (88.3-91.0)
Percentage with impaired fasting glycaemia as defined below • plasma venous value ≥6.1 mmol/L (110 mg/dl) and <7.0 mmol/L (126 mg/dl) • capillary whole blood value ≥5.6 mmol/L (100 mg/dl) and <6.1 mmol/L (110 mg/dl)	4.1 (3.0-5.2)	5.0 (3.4-6.7)	3.2 (2.2-4.1)
Percentage with raised fasting blood glucose as defined below or currently on medication for raised blood glucose • plasma venous value ≥ 7.0 mmol/L (126 mg/dl) • capillary whole blood value ≥ 6.1 mmol/L (110 mg/dl)	3.6 (2.9-4.4)	4.6 (3.4-5.7)	2.7 (1.9-3.6)
Mean total blood cholesterol, including those currently on medication for raised cholesterol (mg/dl)	162.3 (159.7-164.9)	163.4 (159.7-167.0)	161.2 (158.6-163.8)
Percentage with raised total cholesterol (≥ 5.0 mmol/L or ≥ 190 mg/dl or currently on medication for raised cholesterol)	22.7 (20.5-24.9)	24.5 (21.3-27.7)	21.0 (18.7-23.3)
<b>Summary of combined risk factors</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• current daily smokers</li> <li>• less than 5 servings of fruits &amp; vegetables per day</li> <li>• low level of activity</li> <li>• overweight (BMI ≥ 25 kg/m<sup>2</sup>)</li> <li>• raised BP (SBP ≥ 140 and/or DBP ≥ 90 mmHg or currently on medication for raised BP)</li> </ul>			
Percentage with none of the above risk factors	0.4 (0.1-0.7)	0.1 (0.0-0.2)	0.7 (0.2-1.2)
Percentage with three or more of the above risk factors, aged 15 to 44 years	9.8 (8.2-11.5)	13.5 (10.7-16.3)	6.3 (5.0-7.6)
Percentage with three or more of the above risk factors, aged 45 to 69 years	29.5 (26.4-32.7)	33.5 (29.1 -37.9)	25.5 (21.8-29.2)
Percentage with three or more of the above risk factors, aged 15 to 69 years (Total Age Group)	15.1 (13.5-16.8)	19.0 (16.5-21.5)	11.4 (9.8-13.0)

For additional information, please contact:

STEPS country focal point

Nepal Health Research Council

Dr Krishna Kumar Aryal

[Krish.aryal@nhrc.org.np](mailto:Krish.aryal@nhrc.org.np), [nhrc.org.np](http://nhrc.org.np)