

## Calculate average of percentage

We need to first convert the percentage to an equivalent decimal to do our calculation.

Converting a percentage to a decimal we remove the percentage sign and divide by 100.

Converting **10%** to a decimal; **10%** =  $(10/100) = 0.10$ . Then add those decimals and convert totals back to percentages by multiplying by 100.

Ex.-  $28\% + 26\% + 13\% = .28 + .26 + .13 = .67 = .67/3 = .223 = 22.3$  percent for an average of percentages. Of course some students will point out that you can simply add the percentages without conversion (in this case, yes, in most cases no...and depending on your depth of math knowledge, you can talk about “weighted averages...”

Weighted averages would take into account total number percentages are taken from (populations vary from state to state, so 10% from a populous state is very different than 10% from a state with far fewer people.)

## Smoking: State-By-State Ranking

Here are the state-by-state smoking rates -- that is, the percentage of adults who currently smoke every day or some days. Note that the CDC does not rank states; rank order was determined by WebMD on the basis of the CDC data for each state's total smoking rate.

<u>State/Territory</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>	<u>Total</u>
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Kentucky	1	28.8	27.8	<b>28.3</b>
West Virginia	2	28.6	25.5	<b>27.0</b>
Oklahoma	3	28.0	23.8	<b>25.8</b>
Missouri	4	26.0	23.3	<b>24.6</b>
Tennessee	5	25.7	22.9	<b>24.3</b>
Indiana	6	25.9	22.4	<b>24.1</b>
Mississippi	7	27.8	20.5	<b>24.0</b>
Ohio	8	24.2	22.1	<b>23.1</b>
North Carolina	9	25.3	20.7	<b>22.9</b>
Louisiana	10	26.4	19.1	<b>22.6</b>
Alabama	11	25.7	19.7	<b>22.5</b>
Arkansas	12	24.8	20.2	<b>22.4</b>
Alaska	13	24.6	19.7	<b>22.2</b>
Wyoming	14	22.8	21.4	<b>22.1</b>
South Carolina	15	25.3	18.8	<b>21.9</b>
Nevada	16	23.4	19.6	<b>21.5</b>
Michigan	17	23.5	19.0	<b>21.2</b>
North Dakota	18	22.2	19.8	<b>21.0</b>
Pennsylvania	19	20.7	21.1	<b>20.9</b>
New Mexico	20	23.6	18.1	<b>20.8</b>
Illinois	21	22.1	18.4	<b>20.2</b>
Maine	22	21.0	19.3	<b>20.1</b>
Nebraska	23	23.2	16.8	<b>19.9</b>
Arizona	24	23.4	16.3	<b>19.8</b>
Iowa	25	21.4	18.3	<b>19.8</b>
South Dakota	26	20.1	19.5	<b>19.8</b>

Wisconsin	27	19.6	19.5	<b>19.6</b>
Montana	28	19.8	19.3	<b>19.5</b>
New Hampshire	29	20.2	18.6	<b>19.4</b>
Texas	30	22.0	16.9	<b>19.4</b>
Florida	31	21.3	17.5	<b>19.3</b>
Georgia	32	21.2	17.5	<b>19.3</b>
Idaho	33	20.9	17.4	<b>19.2</b>
Delaware	34	17.6	20.3	<b>19.0</b>
New York	35	21.6	16.5	<b>18.9</b>
Colorado	36	19.7	17.7	<b>18.7</b>
Virginia	37	20.3	16.9	<b>18.6</b>
Kansas	38	18.7	17.1	<b>17.9</b>
Vermont	39	19.5	15.9	<b>17.6</b>
District of Columbia	40	19.1	15.7	<b>17.3</b>
New Jersey	41	19.4	15.2	<b>17.2</b>
Maryland	42	18.4	16.0	<b>17.1</b>
Hawaii	43	19.8	14.3	<b>17.0</b>
Rhode Island	44	17.8	16.3	<b>17.0</b>
Oregon	45	18.9	14.9	<b>16.9</b>
Washington	46	18.0	15.7	<b>16.8</b>
Minnesota	47	18.3	14.7	<b>16.5</b>
Massachusetts	48	17.4	15.5	<b>16.4</b>
Connecticut	49	16.6	14.5	<b>15.5</b>
California	50	18.1	10.6	<b>14.3</b>

Utah	51	15.5	8.0	11.7
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