

Supplementary Table 1. Summary of studies about tobacco use among Indigenous communities in India

Sr. No.	Communities and the geography studied	Sample population and the time/duration of the study	Tobacco use prevalence (overall, tobacco forms, gender)	Study citation
1	Soliga/Solega communities in BR hills and MM hills area of Chamarajanagar district, Karnataka	335 (18 years or above) during 2018-2020 period	Current tobacco use prevalence of 34.9%. Among current users, 93.2% use smoking tobacco while 56.4% use smokeless tobacco. Among those using smoking tobacco, a majority (88.9%) use bidis with a very few using cigarettes. Among those using smokeless tobacco, a majority (87.9%) use plain tobacco with a very few using paan.	1
2	Koraga community in rural Mangalore, Karnataka	726 adults (abstract published in 2017)	Prevalence of current use of smoking tobacco (Men: 51.3%, Women: 4.9%) and chewing tobacco (Men: 5%, Women: 1%).	2
3	Tribal colonies of kalpetta block of Wayanad district, Kerala (including Kurichiya and Kuruma but also other tribes)	14-70 years of age, in 2015	Prevalence of tobacco use 73.8%. Among those using tobacco, 82% used smokeless tobacco, 8% used smoking tobacco while 10% used both the forms.	3
4	Narikuravars (“gypsies”) community from Thiruchendur, Eral and Srivaikundam blocks of Thoothukudi district, Tamil Nadu	128 adults in 2019	Prevalence of tobacco use 64.5%. Among those using tobacco, 29.1% used smoking tobacco and 63.4% used smokeless tobacco while 7.5% used both. 71.2% of women and 53.6% of men reported using tobacco in some form.	4
5	Gonds community residing in Kundam block of Jabalapur district, Madhya Pradesh	1936 individuals (6 years onward) in 2017	Prevalence of tobacco use among children (aged 6-14 years) was 15.4% and the overall prevalence (in sample population aged 6 years and above) was 57.8%. 65.4% of men and 50% of women reported using tobacco in some form. Among those using tobacco, 83.1% used smokeless tobacco and 15% used smoking form while 2.4% used both forms. Women were exclusive users of smokeless tobacco.	5

6	Baiga community residing in Mandla block of Mandla district, Madhya Pradesh	540 (10 years and above), the study was published in 2020	Overall prevalence of tobacco use was 54.8%. Smokeless tobacco use was dominant: 66% of women used smokeless tobacco and 57.7% of men used this form. Commonly used smokeless tobacco included Nas (often used for dental cleaning from very early age), Gudakhu and dry tobacco leaves.	6
7	Tribal communities residing in Car Nicobar district of the Nicobar Islands	400 (12 years and above), the study published in 2021	Overall prevalence of tobacco use was 88.25% (aged 12 years and above).(19) Among those who used tobacco, 83.5% used smokeless tobacco, 3.3% used smoking tobacco and 1.5% used both the forms. 55.5% of women used tobacco while 32.7% of men used tobacco.	7

1. Majgi SM, Basappa YC, Manjegowda SB, Nageshappa S, Suresh H, Babu GR, et al. Prevalence of dyslipidemia, hypertension and diabetes among tribal and rural population in a south Indian forested region. *PLOS Glob Public Heal.* 2024;4(5). <http://dx.doi.org/10.1371/journal.pgph.0002807>
2. Aluckal E. Tobacco use, smoking quit rates, and socioeconomic patterning among indigenous tribe of rural Mangalore, India. *Ann Oncol.* 2017[cited 2025 Jun 25];28(10):XXIO. Available from: [https://www.annalsofoncology.org/article/S0923-7534\(19\)56336-0/fulltext](https://www.annalsofoncology.org/article/S0923-7534(19)56336-0/fulltext)
3. Janakiram C, Joseph J, Vasudevan S, Taha F, Deepan Kumar C, Venkitachalam R, et al. Prevalence and Dependency of Tobacco Use in an Indigenous Population of Kerala, India. *J Oral Hyg Heal.* 2016[cited 2025 Jun 25];04:198. Available from: <https://www.omicsonline.org/open-access/prevalence-and-dependency-of-tobacco-use-in-an-indigenous-populationof-kerala-india-2332-0702-1000198.php?aid=69141>
4. Chellappa LR, Leelavathi L, Indiran MA, Rathinavelu PK. Prevalence and dependency of tobacco use among tribal gypsies in Thoothukudi district - a cross sectional study. *J Fam Med Prim Care.* 2021[cited 2025 Jun 25];10(2):738–44. Available from: <http://www.jfmpc.com/article.asp?issn=2249-4863;year=2017;volume=6;issue=1;spage=169;epage=170;aulast=Faizi>
5. Mukti Kendra N, Pradesh M, Manoj Sharma I, Kumar S, Kumar Sharma R, Soan V, et al. Sociodemographic determinants of high tobacco use in Gond tribe of central India. *Natl Med J India.* 2022;35(2):2022.
6. Agarwal A, Bhattacharya M. Tobacco use and oral mucosal changes in Baiga tribals of Madhya Pradesh. *J Community Heal Manag.* 2020;7(4):136–40.
7. Rajkuwar A, Verma A, Vijayapandian H, Kumar P, Dheeraj M, Vincent V. Prevalence of tobacco use and oral mucosal lesions among Nicobarese tribal population in Andaman and Nicobar Islands. *J Contemp Dent Pract.* 2021;22(9): 975-978