Table 1 Demographic, socioeconomic, residential and behavioural profiles of study participants (*n* = 6363)

Variable	Classification	Prevalence of current smoking for:		
		Overall, *n* (%)	Male, *n* (%)	Female, *n* (%)
Current smoking		818 (14.0)	624 (100)	174 (100)
Sex, n = 798		***		
	Female	174 (5.5)		
	Male	624 (24.0)		
Age, yr, n = 746		***		
	≤ 14	31 (10.2)	20 (3.5)	11 (6.8)
	15	137 (8.8)	98 (17)	38 (23.5)
	16	221 (13.4)	161 (28)	57 (35.2)
	17	219 (14.7)	181 (31.4)	37 (22.8)
	18	81 (20.8)	66 (11.5)	13 (8)
	≥ 19	57 (28.8)	50 (8.7)	6 (3.7)
School, n = 818		**		
	Public	445 (12.8)	373 (59.8)	60 (34.5)
	Private	373 (15.9)	251 (40.2)	114 (65.5)
Exposed to tobacco smoke at home or with friends, n = 698		***		
	Not at all	272 (8.8)	198 (36.8)	69 (47.3)
	Occasionally	237 (17.5)	189 (35.1)	44 (30.1)
	Daily	189 (30.0)	44 (30.1)	33 (22.6)
UAE born, n = 789	No	209 (14.6)	138 (22.7)	69 (40.8)
	Yes	580 (13.6)	471 (77.3)	100 (59.2)
Ethnicity, n = 792[a]		***		
	UAE	318 (11.3)	256 (42)	54 (31.6)
	GCC	61 (19.2)	54 (8.9)	6 (3.5)
	Arab/Middle East	215 (23.9)	155 (25.4)	60 (35.1)
	Arab/Africa	93 (16.0)	83 (13.6)	10 (5.8)
	South East Asia	66 (7.0)	44 (7.2)	21 (12.3)
	Western	22 (27.5)	6 (1.0)	15 (8.8)
	None/other	17 (23.0)	12 (2.0)	5 (2.9)
Parental marital status, n = 783		**		
	Married	687 (13.8)	535 (88.1)	150 (86.7)
	Widowed	27 (12.4)	41 (6.8)	7 (4.0)
	Separated/divorced	22 (9.8)	11 (1.8)	7 (4.0)
	Other	47 (20.2)	20 (3.3)	9 (5.2)
Father graduated from high school, n = 605	No	243 (12.5)	195 (42.1)	40 (30.5)
	Yes	362 (13.3)	268 (57.9)	91 (69.5)
Mother graduated from high school, n = 597	No	291 (12.4)	235 (51.6)	50 (37.9)
	Yes	306 (13.1)	220 (48.4)	82 (62.1)
Monthly household income (AED), n = 479	≤ 2 K	17 (11.8)	13 (3.4)	3 (3.2)
	> 2 and ≤ 5 K	100 (12.1)	88 (23.3)	12 (12.8)
	> 5 and ≤ 8 K	81 (12.8)	63 (16.7)	15 (16.0)
	> 8 and ≤ 10 K	52 (12.0)	41 (10.8)	10 (10.6)
	> 10 and ≤ 12 K	42 (13.0)	34 (9.0)	8 (8.5)
	> 12 and ≤ 15 K	44 (15.0)	33 (8.7)	10 (10.6)
	> 15 and ≤ 20 K	38 (14.6)	29 (7.7)	9 (9.6)
	> 20 K	105 (16.1)	77 (20.4)	27 (28.7)
Income divided (AED), n = 469[b]	< 15 K	342 (12.9)	272 (74.3)	63 (65.6)
	≥ 15 K	127 (13.9)	94 (25.7)	33 (34.4)
Location of residence, n = 818		***		
	Abu Dhabi	411 (15.0)	331 (53.0)	71 (40.8)
	Ajman	39 (17.9)	23 (3.7)	16 (9.2)
	Dubai	75 (13.9)	64 (10.3)	11 (6.3)
	Fujairah	62 (12.8)	37 (5.9)	22 (12.6)
	RAK	51 (8.3)	38 (6.1)	10 (5.7)
	Sharjah	170 (15.5)	125 (20.0)	41 (23.6)
	UAQ	10 (7.6)	6 (1.0)	3 (1.7)
Residential Crowding, n = 234[c]		*		
	No	106 (8.7)	74 (44.0)	30 (47.6)
	Yes	128 (6.7)	94 (56.0)	33 (52.4)
Number of previous residences, n = 818	None	580 (14.5)	444 (71.2)	117 (67.2)
	1	160 (13.5)	120 (19.2)	40 (23.0)
	2	41 (12.1)	30 (4.8)	10 (5.7)
	3	18 (11.3)	16 (2.6)	2 (1.1)
	4	19 (13.8)	14 (2.2)	5 (2.9)
Ever used illegal drugs, n = 800		***		
	No	757 (13.8)	584 (94.8)	159 (95.8)
	Yes	43 (47.8)	32 (5.2)	7 (4.2)
Unconventional drug use, n = 795	No	577 (14.8)	476 (77.8)	91 (54.8)
	Yes	218 (13.2)	136 (22.2)	75 (45.2)

*P < 0.05; **P < 0.01; ***P < 0.001.

aUAE = local; GCC = Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Qatar, Bahrain and Yemen; Arab/Middle East = Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Palestine and Iraq; Arab/Africa = Egypt, Tunisia, Morocco, Algeria, Libya, Sudan and Somalia; South East Asia = India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Philippines and Indonesia; Western = Europe, United States of America, Australia, Canada; No nationality and Others = all other nationalities.

aCutoff based on data from the UAE Ministry of Economy, indicating that the average monthly income for Emirati households is AED 36 438.10 and that for expatriate households is AED 15 074.30.

bCalculated using the ratio for the number of individuals that reside in the household over the number of bedrooms in the house.

AED = United Arab Emirates dirham; RAK = Ras al-Khaimah; UAQ = Umm al-Quwain.