**A Collection of National Survey Menthol-Related Items**

The Menthol Survey Item Table includes a sample of existing menthol questions used in nationalsurveys from 1999-2022. This is not an exhaustive or complete list but provides examples used on various national surveys for discussion purposes.

For more information about tobacco-related survey questions, please go to the CDC Question Inventory on Tobacco (QIT) [Question Inventory on Tobacco (QIT) | Chronic Disease and Health Promotion Data & Indicators](https://chronicdata.cdc.gov/Survey-Questions-Tobacco-Use-/Question-Inventory-on-Tobacco-QIT-/vdgb-f9s3?) . The QIT is a tool that compiles more than 7,000 historical tobacco-related survey questions from various state, national and international surveys.

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| Table 1: Menthol Survey Items | | | | |  | |
|  | Survey Year(s) | Survey/ Item # | Survey Items | Survey Responses | Agency | Notes |
| Cigarettes | | | | | | |
| Knowledge, Attitudes, Beliefs (KAB) | | | | | | |
| Harm | | | | | | |
| 1 | 2014-15 | PATH | Are cigarettes flavored like menthol or mint less harmful, no different, or more harmful than regular cigarettes? ASK: All youth respondents. | Less harmful; No different; More harmful | FDA |  |
| Easier to smoke/Less harsh on throat | | | | | | |
| 2 | 2013-14 | PATH | Are cigarettes flavored like menthol or mint harder to smoke, about the same, or easier to smoke than regular cigarettes? | Harder to smoke; About the same; Easier to smoke; Don’t Know; Refused | FDA |  |
| Reasons Why | | | | | | |
| 3 | 2010-11 | TUS-CPS | Reason you usually smoke menthol/non-menthol cigarettes? They are less harmful than non-menthol /menthol cigarettes; They have a better flavor than non-menthol /menthol cigarettes; They are less harsh on your THROAT than non-menthol /menthol cigarettes; They are less harsh on your CHEST than non-menthol/menthol cigarettes | Yes; No | NCI |  |
| First Use | | | | | | |
| 4 | 2013-14 | PATH | Was the first cigarette you smoked flavored to taste like menthol or mint? ASK: Respondents who have ever tried cigarette smoking | Yes; No; Don’t Know; Refused | FDA |  |
| Ever Smoked Menthol | | | | | | |
| 5 | 2010-11 | TUS/CPS | Have you EVER smoke MENTHOL cigarettes for 6 months or more? | Yes; No | NCI |  |
| Use (Past 30 days) | | | | | | |
| 6 | 2013-14 | PATH | In the past 30 days, were any of the cigarettes you smoked flavored to taste like menthol or mint? ASK: Past 30 day users | Yes, No, Don’t Know, Refused | FDA |  |
| 7 | 2022Optional Module | BRFSS | Currently, when you smoke cigarettes, do you usually smoke menthol cigarettes? | Yes, No, Don’t know / Not sure, Refused | CDC |  |
| 8 | 2004,2010, 2019 | NSDUH | Were the cigarettes you smoked during the past 30 days menthol? | Yes; No; Don’t know/Refused | SAMHSA |  |
| 9 | 1999, 2000 | NYTS | Is the brand of cigarettes that you usually smoke during the past 30 days mentholated? | I did not smoke cigarettes during the past 30 days; I do not have a usual brand; No, it is not a menthol brand; Yes, it is a menthol brand; | CDC |  |
| 10 | 2011, 2020 | NYTS | Menthol cigarettes are cigarettes that taste like mint. During the past 30 days, were the cigarettes that you usually smoked menthol? | I did not smoke cigarettes during the past 30 days; Not sure; Yes; No | CDC/  FDA |  |
| 11 | 2020 | NYTS | Were any of the [tobname] that you used in the past 30 days flavored to taste like menthol, mint, clove or spice, alcohol (wine, cognac), candy, fruit, chocolate, or any other flavor? | Yes; No; Don’t know | CDC/  FDA |  |
| 12 | 2020 | NYTS | What flavors were the [tobname] that you have used in the past 30 days? (Select one or more) | Menthol; Mint Clove or spice; Fruit; Chocolate; Alcoholic drinks (such as wine, cognac, margarita, or other cocktails); Candy, desserts, or other sweets; Some other flavor not listed here (specify) | CDC/  FDA |  |
| Use (other) | | | | | | |
| 13 | 2010-11 | TUS-CPS | For how long have you smoked MENTHOL cigarettes? | All or nearly all the years you have smoked; Most of the years you have smoked; Half of the years you have smoked; Less than half the years you have smoked; Less than one year | NCI |  |
| Quitting Behavior (attempts, etc.) | | | | | | |
| 14 | 2010-11 | TUS-CPS | The (LAST TIME / time) you tried to QUIT smoking in the past 12 months: Did you do ANY of the following: Did you SWITCH to menthol cigarettes in order to TRY TO QUIT? | Yes; No | NCI |  |
| 15 | 2010-11 | TUS-CPS | When you quit smoking completely, did you do ANY of the following: Please mention ALL methods, whether or not you think they were effective: Did you SWITCH to menthol cigarettes in order to TRY TO QUIT? | Yes; No | NCI |  |
| Brands/Types of cigs smoked / Menthol or Plain | | | | | | |
| 16 | 1999-2010 | NHANES | Is the cigarette product mentholated or non-mentholated? | Don’t know/Not sure; Mentholated; Non-mentholated; Refused | CDC |  |
| 17 | 2005, 2010 | NHIS | Earlier you said you smoke cigarettes. Is your usual cigarette brand menthol or non-menthol? | No usual brand; Refused; Don’t know; Menthol; No usual type; Non-menthol | CDC |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 18 | 2005-10 | NHANES | {Were/Was} the {BRAND REPORTED} cigarettes menthol or non-menthol? | Refused; Don’t know; Menthol; Non-menthol; | CDC |  |
| 19 | 2005, 10 | NHIS | Earlier you said you used to smoke cigarettes. Think back to the 12 months BEFORE you quit smoking. During that time, was your usual cigarette brand menthol or non-menthol? | Menthol; No usual brand; Non-menthol; Don’t know; Refused; No usual type | CDC |  |
| 20 | 2003, 2006-07 | TUS-CPS | Think back to the YEAR BEFORE YOU QUIT SMOKING. During that time, was your usual cigarette brand menthol or non-menthol? | Menthol; No usual type; Non-menthol | NCI |  |
| 21 | 2004, 06, 09 | NYTS | Are the cigarettes you usually smoke menthol cigarettes? | I do not smoke cigarettes; Yes; No | CDC/  FDA |  |
| 22 | 2003, 06-07 | TUS-CPS | Is your usual cigarette brand menthol or non-menthol? | Menthol; No usual type; Non-menthol | NCI |  |
| 23 | 2010-11, 2015 | TUS-CPS | Do you usually smoke menthol or non-menthol cigarettes? | Menthol; Don’t know/Refused; No usual type; Non-menthol | NCI |  |
| 24 | 2010-11 | TUS-CPS | Around this time 12 MONTHS AGO, were you usually smoking menthol or non-menthol cigarettes? | Menthol; No usual type; Non-menthol | NCI |  |
| 25 | 2019 | Monitoring the Future | Are the cigarettes you usually smoke menthol? | Yes; No | NIH |  |
| Flavor | | | | | | |
| 26 | 2015 | TUS-CPS | Some tobacco products come in flavors such as menthol or mint, clove, spice, candy, fruit, chocolate, alcohol, or other flavors. When you ….[fill as appropriate entry – smoke a cigar /smoke a regular pipe filled with tobacco / smoke a water/hookah pipe filled with tobacco (use an E-cigarette /use smokeless tobacco / use dissolvable tobacco] ….. is it usually flavored? | Yes; No | NCI | *(Cigarettes not mentioned explicitly.)* |
| E-cigarettes | | | | | | |
| 27 | 2017-18 | PATH | Do you think using menthol or mint flavored e-cigarettes is less harmful, about the same, or more harmful than using tobacco-flavored or unflavored e-cigarettes? | Less harmful, About the same, More harmful, Don't know, Refused | FDA | e-cigarettes |
| 28 | 2016 - 18 | PATH | In the past 30 days, on the days you used an electronic nicotine product, how often was it flavored to taste like menthol or mint? ASK: Youth respondents who are past 30-day electronic nicotine product users and have used menthol or mint flavored electronic nicotine products in the past 30 days. | All of the time, Most of the time, Sometimes, Rarely, Never | FDA | electronic nicotine product |
| 29 | 2022 Optional Module | BRFSS | Currently, when you use e-cigarettes, do you usually use menthol e-cigarettes? | Yes; No; Don’t know / Not sure; Refused | CDC |  |
| Policy (includes cigarettes, and other tobacco and vape products) | | | | | | |
| 30 | 2010-11 | TUS-CPS | If menthol cigarettes were no longer sold, which of the following would you MOST LIKELY do: | Switch to non-menthol cigarettes; Switch to some other tobacco product; Quit smoking and not use any other tobacco product; NONE OF THE ABOVE | NCI | cigarette |
| Other than cigarettes (e.g., cigar, pipe) | | | | | | |
| 31 | 2013-14 | PATH | Was the first pipe tobacco you smoked flavored to taste like menthol, mint, clove, spice, candy, fruit, chocolate, alcohol (such as wine or cognac), or other sweets? | Yes; No; Don’t know; Refused | FDA | pipe |
| 32 | 2016-18 | PATH | Was the first cigarillo you smoked as a blunt flavored to taste like menthol, mint, clove, spice, fruit, chocolate, alcoholic drinks, candy, or other sweets? | Yes; No; Don’t know; Refused | FDA | cigar |
| 33 | 2013-14 | PATH | Some pipe tobacco comes in flavors like menthol, mint, clove, spice, candy, fruit, chocolate, alcohol (such as wine or cognac), or other sweets. Is flavored pipe tobacco easier to smoke, about the same, or harder to smoke than unflavored pipe tobacco? | Easier to smoke; About the same; Harder to smoke; Don’t know; Refused | FDA | pipe |
| 34 | 2013-14 | PATH | In the past 30 days, were any of the cigarillos that you smoked flavored to taste like menthol, mint, clove, spice, candy, fruit, chocolate, alcohol (such as wine or cognac), or other sweets? | Yes; No; Don’t know; Refused | FDA | cigar |
| 35 | 2018-19 | PATH | In the past 30 days, was any of the pipe tobacco you smoked flavored to taste like menthol, mint, clove, spice, fruit, chocolate, alcoholic drinks, candy, or other sweets? | Yes; No; Don’t know; Refused | FDA | pipe |

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| **Table 2: Menthol Survey Items Sources** | |
| **Source Acronym** | **Survey Name** |
| BRFSS | Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System |
| MTF | Monitoring the Future |
| NHANES | National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey |
| NHIS | National Health Interview Survey |
| NSDUH | National Survey on Drug Use and Health |
| NYTS | National Youth Tobacco Survey |
| PATH | Population Assessment of Tobacco and Health; Note, PATH items have multiple versions based on the specific survey wave; however, the differences vary slightly. |
| TUS-CPS | Current Population Survey Tobacco Use Supplement (TUS-CPS) |

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