

CAMPAIGN For TOBACCO-FREE Kids®

THE TOLL OF TOBACCO IN TENNESSEE

Tobacco Use in Tennessee

- High school students who smoke: 27.6% [Girls: 27.0% Boys: 28.4%]
- High school males who use smokeless tobacco: 21.4%
- Kids (under 18) who try cigarettes for the first time each year: 32,100
- Additional Kids (under 18) who become new regular, daily smokers each year: 14,600
- Packs of cigarettes bought or smoked by kids in Tennessee each year: 21.7 million
- Kids exposed to second hand smoke at home: 488,000
- Adults in Tennessee who smoke: 25.7% [Men: 27.3% Women: 24.2% Pregnant Females: 17.1%]

Nationwide, youth smoking has declined recently, but remains at high levels. The 2002 National Youth Tobacco Survey (YTS) found that 22.9% of U.S. high school kids smoke and 10.8% of high school males use spit tobacco. U.S. adult smoking has decreased gradually since the 1980s, and 22.5% of U.S. adults (about 45 million) currently smoke.

Deaths in Tennessee From Smoking

- Adults who die each year in Tennessee from their own smoking: 9,600
- Annual deaths in state from others' smoking (secondhand smoke & pregnancy smoking): 910 to 1,610
- Tennessee kids who have lost at least one parent to a smoking-caused death: 8,100
- Kids alive in today who will ultimately die from smoking: 128,300 (given current smoking levels)

Smoking kills more people each year than alcohol, AIDS, car crashes, illegal drugs, murders, and suicides combined -- and thousands more die from spit-tobacco use and other tobacco-related causes (but there currently are no good state-specific estimates of these other tobacco deaths). For every person in Tennessee who dies from smoking approximately 20 more state residents are suffering from serious smoking-caused disease and disability, or other smoking-caused health problems.

Tobacco-Related Monetary Costs in Tennessee

- Annual health care expenditures in the Tennessee directly caused by tobacco use: \$1.99 billion
- State medicaid program's total health expenditures caused by tobacco use: \$626.4 million
- Citizens' state/federal taxes to cover smoking-caused gov't costs: \$1.3 billion (\$579 per household)
- Smoking-caused productivity losses in Tennessee: \$2.62 billion
- Smoking-caused health costs and productivity losses per pack sold in Tennessee: \$7.79

Other non-health costs caused by tobacco use include direct residential and commercial property losses from smoking-caused fires (about \$400 million nationwide); the costs of the extra cleaning and maintenance made necessary by tobacco smoke and tobacco-related litter (about \$4+ billion per year for commercial establishments alone); and additional work productivity losses from smoking-caused work absences, on-the-job performance declines, and disability during otherwise productive work lives (in the tens of billions nationwide) [productivity loss amount above is from smoking-death-shortened work lives, alone].

Tobacco Industry Advertising and Other Product Promotion

- Annual tobacco industry marketing expenditures nationwide: \$12.7 billion (\$34+ million per day)
- Estimated portion spent in Tennessee each year: \$359.2 million

Published research studies have found that kids are three times more sensitive to tobacco advertising than adults and are more likely to be influenced to smoke by cigarette marketing than by peer pressure, and that one-third of underage experimentation with smoking is attributable to tobacco company marketing.

Tennessee Government Policies Affecting The Toll of Tobacco in Tennessee

- Annual State tobacco prevention spending from tobacco settlement and tax revenues: \$0.0 million [National rank: 51 (with 1 the best)]
- State cigarette tax per pack: \$0.20 [National rank: 46th (average state tax is \$0.845 per pack)]

Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, 3.4.05 / Eric Lindblom & Katie McMahon / March 4, 2005

Sources

Youth smoking. 2003 Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS). A 2000 Youth Tobacco Survey (YTS) found that 32.4% in high school smoked, but the YTS and YRBS cannot be compared to show trends because of different methodologies. Current smoking = smoked in past month. The 2003 Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), with a different methodology than the YTS, found that 21.9% of U.S. high school kids smoke and 11.0% of high school males use spit tobacco. Male Youth smokeless. 2003 YRBS. A 2000 YTS found that 22.3% of high school males used smokeless, but the YTS and YRBS cannot be compared to show trends because of different methodologies. Female smokeless use is much lower. New youth smokers. Estimate based on U.S. Dept of Health & Human Services (HHS), "Summary Findings from the 2000 National Household Survey on Drug Abuse" (2001), <http://www.samhsa.gov/oas/nhsda.htm>, with the state share of the national number allocated through the formula in CDC, "Projected Smoking-Related Deaths Among Youth -- United States," Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) 45(44): 971-74 (November 8, 1996) [based on state young adult smoking rates, and as updated in CDC, State Highlights 2004: Sustaining State Programs for Tobacco Control, 2004, <http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/datahighlights/index.htm>]. Smokefree workplaces. Shopland, D., et al., "State-Specific Trends in Smoke-Free Workplace Policy Coverage: The Current Population Survey Tobacco Use Supplement, 1993 to 1999," Journal of Occupational & Environmental Medicine 43(8): 680-86 (August 2001). Kids exposed to secondhand smoke. CDC, "State-Specific Prevalence of Cigarette Smoking Among Adults, and Children's and Adolescents' Exposure to Environmental Tobacco Smoke -- United States, 1996," MMWR 46(44): 1038-43 (November 7, 1997). Packs consumed by kids. Estimated from DiFranza, J. & J. Librett, "State and Federal Revenues from Tobacco Consumed by Minors," American Journal of Public Health (AJPH) 89(7): 1106-08 (July 1999) & Cummings, et al., "The Illegal Sale of Cigarettes to US Minors: Estimates by State," AJPH 84(2): 300-302 (February 1994), and Tennessee's youth population & smoking rates. Adult smoking. State: 2003 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/PDF/wk/mm5344.pdf>. National: 2002 National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/PDF/wk/mm5240.pdf>. Pregnant Females. "Smoking During Pregnancy -- United States, 1990-2002, Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) 53(39): 911-15 (October 8, 2004) <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/PDF/wk/mm5339.pdf>.

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Other major source of State tobacco-related data: CDC, state-specific tobacco information, <http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/statehi/statehi.htm>.

All CDC MMWR's available at <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr>. Abstracts of many of the cited articles at PubMed, <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez>.

Related Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids Fact Sheets, available at <http://www.tobaccofreekids.org> or <http://tobaccofreekids.org/research/factsheets>:

- Toll of Tobacco in the USA
- Comprehensive State Tobacco Prevention Programs Effectively Reduce Tobacco Use; and State Tobacco Prevention Programs Save Money
- Raising State Tobacco Taxes Always Increases State Revenues and Reduces Tobacco Use