Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids

Toll of Tobacco in the United States

The Toll of Tobacco in Connecticut

*Updated April 27, 2011*

The Toll of Tobacco in Connecticut

- High school students who smoke: 15.3% (31,000)
- Male high school students who use smokeless or spit tobacco: 9.6% (females use much lower)
- Kids (under 18) who become new daily smokers each year: 4,700
- Kids exposed to secondhand smoke at home: 186,000
- Packs of cigarettes bought or smoked by kids each year: 7.3 million
- Adults in Connecticut who smoke: 13.2% (363,900)

U.S. National Data (2009)

- High school smoking rate: 19.5%
- Male high school students who use smokeless tobacco: 15%
- Adult smoking rate: 20.6%

Deaths in Connecticut from Smoking

- Adults who die each year from their own smoking: 4,700
- Kids now under 18 and alive in Connecticut who will ultimately die prematurely from smoking: 76,000
- Adult nonsmokers who die each year from exposure to secondhand smoke: 420

Smoking kills more people than alcohol, AIDS, car crashes, illegal drugs, murders, and suicides combined — and thousands more die from other tobacco-related causes — such as fires caused by smoking (more than 1,000 deaths/year nationwide) and smokeless tobacco use.
Smoking-Caused Monetary Costs in Connecticut

Annual health care costs in Connecticut directly caused by smoking $1.63 billion
Portion covered by the state Medicaid program $430 million
Residents' state & federal tax burden from smoking-caused government expenditures $674 per household
Smoking-caused productivity losses in Connecticut $1.03 billion

Amounts do not include health costs caused by exposure to secondhand smoke, smoking-caused fires, smokeless tobacco use, or cigar and pipe smoking. Tobacco use also imposes additional costs such as workplace productivity losses and damage to property.

Tobacco Industry Influence in Connecticut

Annual tobacco industry marketing expenditures nationwide $12.8 billion
Estimated portion spent for Connecticut marketing each year $98.4 million

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

View sources of information.

More detailed fact sheets on tobacco's toll in each state are available by emailing factsheets@tobaccofreekids.org

Sources

Smoking and smokeless rates, deaths, and other state tobacco-related information

New underage daily smoker estimate based on data from U.S. Dept of Health and Human Services (HHS), “Results from the 2009 National Survey on Drug Use and Health,” with the state share of national initiation number based on CDC data on future youth smokers in each state compared to national total.

**Kids exposed to second hand smoke**


**Packs illegally sold to kids or smoked by them**


**Smoking-caused health expenditures, productivity losses, tax burdens**


**Additional information on tobacco-related costs**


**Tobacco industry marketing**