TOLL OF TOBACCO IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Tobacco Use in the USA

- **High school students who are current (past month) smokers: 15.7% [Boys: 16.4% Girls: 15.0%]; over 2.6 million**
- **High school males who currently use smokeless tobacco: 14.7% [Girls: 2.9%]**
- **Kids (under 18) who try smoking for the first time each day: 2,500+**
- **Kids (under 18) who become new regular, daily smokers each day: 580**
- **Kids (3-11) exposed to secondhand smoke: 40.6% [Black: 67.9% White: 37.2%]**
- **Packs of cigarettes consumed by kids each year: approx. 540 million (nearly $1.2 billion per year in sales revenue)**
- **Adults in the USA who are current smokers : 16.8% [Men: 18.8% Women: 14.8%]; approx. 40 million**
- **Adults in the USA who smoke daily: 12.9%**

Deaths & Disease in the USA from Tobacco Use

- **People who die each year from cigarette smoking and exposure to secondhand smoke: approx. 480,000+**
- **Kids under 18 alive today who will ultimately die from smoking (unless smoking rates decline): 5.6 million**
- **People in the USA who currently suffer from smoking-caused illness: 16 million+**

Smoking kills more people than alcohol, AIDS, car accidents, illegal drugs, murders, and suicides combined, with thousands more dying from spit tobacco use. Of all the kids who become new smokers each year, almost a third will ultimately die from it. In addition, smokers lose a decade of life because of their smoking.

Tobacco-Related Monetary Costs in the USA

- **Total annual public and private *health care* expenditures caused by smoking: approx. $170 billion**
  - **Annual Federal and state government smoking-caused Medicaid payments: $39.6 billion [Federal share: $22.5 billion per year. States' share: $17.1 billion]**
  - **Federal government smoking-caused Medicare expenditures each year: $45.0 billion**
  - **Other federal government tobacco-caused health care costs (e.g. through VA health care): $23.8 billion**
- **Annual health care expenditures solely from secondhand smoke exposure: $6.03 billion**

Not included above are costs from smokeless or spit tobacco use or pipe/cigar smoking.

- **Productivity losses caused by smoking each year: $151 billion**

[Only includes costs from productive work lives shortened by smoking-caused death. Not included: costs from smoking-caused disability during work lives, smoking-caused sick days, or smoking-caused productivity declines when on the job.]

Other non-healthcare costs from tobacco use include residential and commercial property losses from smoking-caused fires, tobacco-related cleaning & maintenance, and expenditures through Social Security Survivors Insurance for kids who have lost at least one parent from a smoking-caused death.

- **Taxpayers yearly fed/state tax burden from smoking-caused gov't spending: $956 per household**
- **Smoking-caused health costs and productivity losses per pack sold in USA (low estimate): $19.16 per pack**
- **Average retail price per pack in the USA (including sales tax): $5.96**

Tobacco Industry Advertising & Political Influence

- **Annual tobacco industry spending on marketing its products nationwide: $9.6 billion ($26+ million each day)**

Research studies have found that kids are three times as sensitive to tobacco advertising than adults and are more likely to be influenced to smoke by cigarette marketing than by peer pressure; and that a third of underage experimentation with smoking is attributable to tobacco company advertising and promotion.

- **Tobacco company PAC contributions to federal candidates, 2014 election cycle: More than $1.8 million**
- **Tobacco industry expenditures lobbying Congress in 2014: $22.0 million**

Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, February 1, 2016 / Laura Bach

Sources of Information for Tobacco's Toll in the USA ***Youth tobacco use.*** 2013 National Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS). The 2011 YRBS found that 18.1% of high school students smoked and 12.8% of high school males used smokeless tobacco. Current smoker defined as having smoked in the past month. The CDC also released the 2014 National Youth Tobacco Survey in 2015 but we rely on the YRBS for national tobacco use rates because the CDC continues to rely on the YRBS as its main measure of trends. See, also, Inst. for Social Research, Univ. of Mich., *Monitoring the Future Studies,* http://monitoringthefuture.org/new.html. ***Youth initiation.*** Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), HHS, *Results from the 2014 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, NSDUH: Summary of National Findings* http://www.samhsa.gov/data/sites/default/files/NSDUH-DetTabs2014/NSDUH-DetTabs2014.pdf. ***Secondhand smoke exposure.*** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), "Vital Signs: Disparities in Nonsmokers' Exposure to Secondhand Smoke – United States, 1999-2012," *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly* Report, February 3, 2015. ***Packs consumed by kids.*** Healton, C, et al., "Youth smoking prevention and tobacco industry revenue," *Tobacco Control* 15:103-106, 2006. See, also, DiFranza, J & Librett, J, "State and Federal Revenues from Tobacco Consumed by Minors," *American Journal of Public Health* 89(7):1106-1108, July 1999; Cummings, et al., "The Illegal Sale of Cigarettes to US Minors: Estimates by State," *American Journal of Public Health* 84(2):300-302, February 1994. ***Adult smoking.*** CDC, "Current Cigarette Smoking Among Adults - United States, 2005-2014," *MMWR* 64(44):1233-1240, November 13, 2015, http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/wk/mm6444.pdf. National prevalence of daily adult smokers calculated based on percent of smokers reporting daily use.

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All CDC *MMWR*'s at http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr. Abstracts of many of the cited articles at *PubMed*, http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez.
***Related Campaign Factsheets, available at* http://www.tobaccofreekids.org or http://tobaccofreekids.org/research/factsheets.**