Indiana Adult Smoking

Tobacco use is the single most preventable cause of death and disease in the United States. Annually, tobacco use causes more deaths than alcohol, AIDS, car accidents, illegal drugs, murders and suicides, combined. The impact of tobacco on Indiana is staggering, costing Hoosiers 9,700 lives each year.

Data from the Indiana Behavior Risk Factor Surveillance System indicates that Indiana’s adult smoking rate is the lowest it has been at 21.2% in 2010. Cigarette use among Hoosiers is still a critical problem. Indiana is consistently included in the top states with the highest smoking prevalence rates.

Indiana Adult Smoking Rates

- Over 1 million adults in Indiana smoke cigarettes.
- Indiana ranks high among all states in adult smoking prevalence and is higher than the U.S. rate of 17.2%.
- The adult smoking rate among Indiana men (23.3%) remains higher than that of Indiana women (19.3%).

IN Adult Smoking Prevalence, 2001-2010 BRFSS

Tobacco Prevention and Cessation Commission ~ www.in.gov/isdh/tpc ~ 317.234.1787
Indiana Adult Smoking Rates by Age

- BRFSS data suggest that smoking rates decline as age increases, with the exception of 18-24 year olds.

- Rates among the 18-24 year old age group have shown major shifts from year to year, making it difficult to assess trends among this age group.

Indiana Adult Smoking Rates by Educational Attainment

- 35% of Hoosier adults with less than a high school education are current smokers.

- Rates among adults with less than a high school education have remained high from 2003 to 2010, but have decreased from 50.5% in 2008 to 35.1% in 2010.

- BRFSS data trends suggest that adult smoking rates decline as level of formal education attained increases.

Smoking rates among Indiana adults illustrate why tobacco use greatly impacts our state. Tobacco use is the leading preventable cause of death in Indiana, claiming more than 9,700 lives each year and costing the state over $2 billion annually in health care bills, including $487 million in Medicaid payments. Indiana’s tobacco control program continues to raise Hoosiers’ awareness of tobacco prevention and control issues.