

# Estimating the Economic Impact of Secondhand Smoke in Indiana in 2014

## Executive Summary

Cynthia K. Lewis, MPH

Terrell Zollinger, DrPH

Cynthia K. Lewis & Associates, LLC

Secondhand smoke costs Indiana \$2.1 billion dollars<sup>1</sup> in excess medical expenses and premature loss of life, or about \$328 dollars per person each year. The burden of these expenses is assumed by businesses, government, and individual citizens.

**Overall costs of diseases attributed to secondhand smoke for Indiana residents in 2014 = \$2.1 billion dollars**

**Secondhand smoke health care and loss of life costs Indiana \$328 dollars per person each year**

Exposure to secondhand smoke is causally associated with many medical conditions in adults, including lung cancer, nasal sinus cancer, breast cancer, cervical cancer, ischemic heart disease, stroke, diabetes, asthma, and spontaneous abortions. In addition, other studies have suggested that exposure to secondhand smoke may be causally associated with adult leukemia, angina pectoris (severe chest pain), hearing loss, allergies, periodontal disease, dysmenorrhea (severe pelvic pain during menstruation), colds, pneumonia, macular degeneration, congestive heart failure and cardiac arrhythmia.

Scientific evidence confirms that there is no safe, risk-free level of exposure to secondhand smoke

Exposure of children to secondhand smoke has been linked to low birth weight, sudden infant death syndrome, respiratory syncytial virus bronchiolitis (RSV), asthma exacerbations, otitis media (middle ear infections), chronic respiratory symptoms, cystic fibrosis exacerbation, allergies, meningitis, loss of hearing and cognitive behavioral impairment. In addition, many adults and children are injured in fires started by smoking.

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<sup>1</sup> Based on 2014 death data, 2014 hospital discharges, and 2009-2013 medical care expenses adjusted to 2014 dollars

At least 1,337 adults, children and infants in Indiana died in 2014 from diseases definitively tied to secondhand smoke by the US Surgeon General (not including approximately 38 spontaneous abortions). These lives lost are entirely preventable.

**Total Health Care and Loss of Life Costs for Selected SHS Related Conditions  
Indiana, 2014**

**Adults**

Total Health Care Costs	\$705,571,255	
Total Loss of Life Costs	\$1,296,756,281	
<b>Total Costs for Adults</b>		<b>\$2,002,327,536</b>

**Children**

Total Health Care Costs	\$55,903,850	
Total Loss of Life Costs	\$107,597,970	
<b>Total Costs for Children</b>		<b>\$163,501,820</b>

**Total Costs for Adults and Children** **\$2,165,829,356**

**Population of Indiana, 2014<sup>1</sup>** 6,596,855

**Total per Capita Costs** **\$328.31**

Citation: Lewis, Cynthia K., Zollinger, T. Estimating the Economic Impact of Secondhand Smoke in Indiana in 2014.