

The Burden & Costs of Tobacco

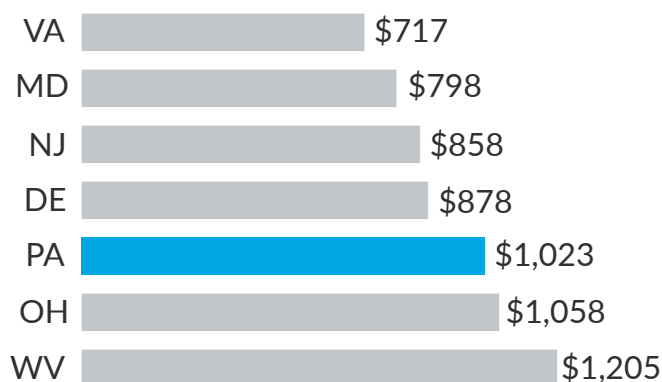
Tobacco use affects all Pennsylvanians.

In Pennsylvania, 18 percent of adults and 13 percent of high school students are current smokers, representing a combined 1.9 million current smokers. Cigarette smoking alone – not including other tobacco products – causes 22,000 deaths each year in Pennsylvania, and also leads to increased rates of heart disease, stroke, and emphysema. Non-smokers, who continue to be exposed to secondhand smoke in thousands of public spaces throughout the Commonwealth, also suffer from poorer health outcomes related to smoke exposure. The health impacts of tobacco use in Pennsylvania translate into a significant burden on our state's economy, including \$6.38 billion in annual smoking-related healthcare costs. These costs are passed on to all Pennsylvanians in the form of higher taxes.

27.9% of cancer deaths in Pennsylvania are attributable to smoking.

Smoking costs PA \$6.38 billion annually in healthcare costs & \$5.73 billion annually in smoking-caused productivity losses.

Per household, PA residents spend more than most of their neighboring states in state & federal taxes due to smoking-caused expenditures.



Secondhand Smoke

Secondhand smoke harms both children and adults, and exposure occurs primarily in homes and workplaces. Smokefree laws can reduce the risk for heart disease and lung cancer among nonsmokers.

Maternal/Child Health

In PA, 13.7% of babies were born to women who smoked during their pregnancy in 2016. The dangers of smoking during pregnancy include premature birth, birth defects, low birth weight, Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS), and miscarriage.



RECOMMENDATION: Invest in a comprehensive tobacco control program, funded at the level recommended by CDC, in order to protect Pennsylvanians' health and reduce tobacco-related expenditures.

Sources:

Pennsylvania Alliance to Control Tobacco. *Tobacco Control in PA 2017*. (2017).
Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids.
CDC. *Smoking and Tobacco Use: Secondhand Smoke*. (2017).
CDC. *Extinguishing the Tobacco Epidemic in Pennsylvania*. (2017).

