

## TOBACCO CONTROL & PREVENTION

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### Background

Smoking is the leading cause of preventable death in the United States. Cigarette smoking and secondhand smoke exposure leads to 500,000 deaths every year, accounting for one out of every five deaths. Approximately two of every five 3- to 11-year-olds were exposed to secondhand smoke from 2017 to 2018, and an estimated 25.3% of middle and high school students self-reported secondhand smoke exposure at home in 2019. Adults who live in rural communities smoke at a rate of 18.1% compared to 10.5% in urban areas, and kids in rural areas are more likely to start smoking at a younger age. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is a critical source of funds for states as they continue to combat smoking and other types of tobacco use. Without this funding, states would lose out on millions of dollars that help Americans address tobacco use and, as a result, reduce over.

### CDC Programs to Address Tobacco Prevention and Control

In FY23, CDC provided over \$96 million to comprehensive tobacco control and prevention programs in 50 states, the District of Columbia, eight US territories and freely associated states, 26 tribes/tribal organizations, and nine national networks. These funds supported efforts to reduce tobacco-related diseases, disabilities, and deaths.

The CDC's Office on Smoking and Health funds and supports:

- CDC's Tips From Former Smokers® (Tips®) campaign, which encourages people who smoke to quit by featuring real people from diverse backgrounds living with serious long-term health effects from smoking and secondhand smoke exposure. From 2012 to 2018, the Tips® campaign motivated more than 16 million U.S. adults to make a quit attempt, and over one million U.S. adults successfully quit smoking. Tips prevented an estimated 129,000 early deaths and helped save approximately \$7.3 billion in smoking-related healthcare costs.
- Quitlines in all 50 states that offer one-on-one counseling and provide personalized advice, motivation, strategies, and educational materials to help users quit.

Increased CDC funding would help to sustain and expand the Tips® campaign and Quitline programs. This would ensure smoking use rates continue to decrease and that \$7.3 billion in healthcare costs are saved.

### The Cost of Tobacco

- Smoking-related illnesses cost the United States more than \$600 billion in 2018. This cost includes more than \$240 billion in healthcare spending and nearly \$372 billion in lost productivity.
- Annual healthcare expenditures solely from secondhand smoke exposure are \$6.5 billion.
- More than 60% of annual smoking-attributable healthcare spending in the U.S. was paid through Medicaid, Medicare, or other federal health insurance programs.

### Tobacco Prevention and Control

Since 1964, when the Surgeon General released the first Smoking and Health Report, smoking rates have fallen by 73% from 42% (the highest recorded rate of smoking) to 11.6% in 2022. For every \$1 spent on comprehensive tobacco control programs, states have seen a \$55 return on investment.

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