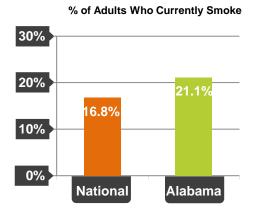




# TOBACCO IN ALABAMA

# CIGARETTE USE\*1-2



% of High School Students who Currently Smoke 30% 20% 10% 10.8% 14.0% 13.4% 14.3% 0% National Alabama Boys (AL) Girls (AL)

# **OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCT USE**

- The prevalence of smokeless tobacco use among adults in Alabama was 6.1% in 2013.
  7.9% of adult current cigarette smokers in Alabama were also current smokeless tobacco users in 2013.<sup>3</sup>
- In 2015, 12.5% of high school students in Alabama used chewing tobacco, snuff, or dip on at least one day in the past 30 days. Nationally, 7.3% of high school students used smokeless tobacco on at least one day in the past 30 days.<sup>2</sup>
- In 2015, 13.4% of high school students in Alabama smoked cigars, cigarillos, or little cigars on at least one day in the past 30 days. Nationally, 10.3% of high school students smoked cigars, cigarillos, or little cigars on at least one day in the past 30 days.<sup>2</sup>
- In 2015, 24.5% of high school students in Alabama used electronic vapor products on at least one day in the past 30 days. Nationally, 24.1% of high school students used electronic vapor products on at least one day in the past 30 days.<sup>2</sup>

# ECONOMICS OF TOBACCO USE AND TOBACCO CONTROL

- In FY2016, Alabama allocated \$1.5 million in state funds to tobacco prevention, which is 2.7% of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Annual Spending Target.<sup>4</sup>
- Alabama received an estimated \$268 million in tobacco settlement payments and taxes in FY2016.<sup>4</sup>
- The health care costs in Alabama, directly caused by smoking, amount to \$1.88 billion annually.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>\*</sup> National and state-level prevalence numbers reflect the most recent data available. This may differ across state fact sheets.

Alabama loses \$2.71 billion in productivity each year due to smoking.<sup>5</sup>

## STATE TOBACCO LAWS<sup>6-7</sup>

#### EXCISE TAX

• The state tax increased to \$0.675 per pack of cigarettes in October 2015. Chewing tobacco is taxed \$0.015 per ounce. All other tobacco products have varying taxes based on weight and price.

#### CLEAN INDOOR AIR ORDINANCES

- Smoking restrictions are required in all government workplaces, schools, childcare facilities, retail stores, and recreational/cultural facilities.
- There are no smoking restrictions in private workplaces, restaurants, bars, or casinos/gaming establishments.

#### YOUTH ACCESS LAWS

- The minimum age requirement for the purchase of tobacco products is 19, and penalties exist for both minors and merchants who violate this law.
- Establishments are required to post signs stating that sales to minors are prohibited.
- The sale to minors of electronic smoking devices, including electronic cigarettes, is prohibited.

# **CESSATION STATISTICS AND BENEFITS**

- The CDC estimates that 59.2% of adult every day smokers in Alabama quit smoking for one or more days in 2014.<sup>8</sup>
- Alabama's Medicaid program covers all seven recommended tobacco cessation medications and phone counseling. Individual counseling is only covered for pregnant women.<sup>7†</sup>
- The state Medicaid program's barriers to coverage include limits on duration, annual limits on quit attempts, prior authorization requirements, and counseling requirements to get medications.<sup>7</sup>
- Alabama's state quitline invests \$1.35 per smoker; the national average investment per smoker is \$3.37.<sup>7</sup>
- Alabama does not have a private insurance mandate provision for cessation.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>†</sup> The seven recommended cessation medications are NRT Gum, NRT Patch, NRT Nasal Spray, NRT Inhaler, NRT Lozenge, Varenicline (Chantix), and Bupropion (Zyban).

Fiore MC, et al. Treating Tobacco Use and Dependence: 2008 Update. Clinical Practice Guideline. Rockville, MD: US Department of Health and Human Services. Public Health Service: May 2008.

# REFERENCES

- <sup>1</sup> CDC, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 2014
- <sup>2</sup> CDC, Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System, 2015
  <sup>3</sup> CDC, State-Specific Prevalence of Cigarette Smoking and Smokeless Tobacco Use Among Adults—MMWR, United States, 2011-2013
- <sup>4</sup> Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, Broken Promises to Our Children: a State-by-State Look at the 1998 State Tobacco Settlement 17 Years Later FY2016, 2015
  <sup>5</sup> Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, Toll of Tobacco in the United States, 2016
  <sup>6</sup> American Lung Association, SLATI State Reports, 2015

- <sup>7</sup> American Lung Association, State of Tobacco Control, 2016
- <sup>8</sup> CDC, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, State Tobacco Activities Tracking and Evaluation System, 2014