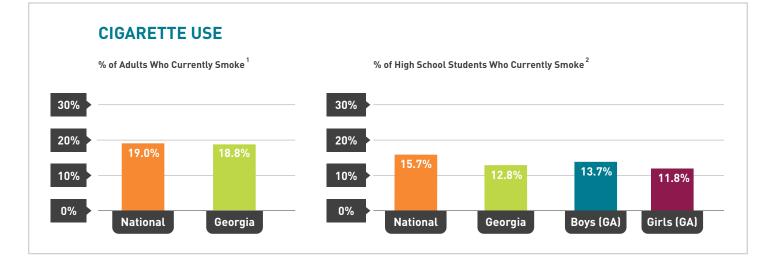




# GEORGIA + TOBACCO



## **OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCT USE**

- The prevalence of smokeless tobacco use among adults in Georgia was 5.0% in 2013. 7.3% of adult current cigarette smokers in Georgia were also current smokeless tobacco users in 2013.<sup>3</sup>
- In 2013, 9.5% of high school students in Georgia used chewing tobacco, snuff, or dip on at least one day in the past 30 days. Nationally, 8.8% of high school students used smokeless tobacco on at least one day in the past 30 days.<sup>2</sup>
- In 2013, 13.5% of high school students in Georgia smoked cigars, cigarillos, or little cigars on at least one day in the past 30 days. Nationally, 12.6% of high school students smoked cigars, cigarillos, or little cigars on at least one day in the past 30 days.<sup>2</sup>
- In 2013, approximately 8.4% of middle school students and 15.7% of high school students in Georgia reported ever use of electronic cigarettes.<sup>4</sup>

## ECONOMICS OF TOBACCO USE AND TOBACCO CONTROL

- In FY2015, Georgia allocated \$1.8 million in state funds to tobacco prevention, which is 1.7% of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Annual Spending Target.<sup>5</sup>
- The health care costs in Georgia, directly caused by smoking, amount to \$3.18 billion annually.<sup>5</sup>

- State and federal Medicaid costs for Georgia total \$650.4 million annually for smoking-caused health care.  $^{\rm 6}$
- Georgia loses \$3.99 billion in productivity each year due to smoking.<sup>6</sup>
- Georgia received an estimated \$361 million in tobacco settlement payments and taxes in FY2015.  $^{\scriptscriptstyle 5}$

### STATE TOBACCO LAWS<sup>7,9</sup>

#### **EXCISE TAX**

• The state tax increased to \$0.37 per pack of cigarettes in July 2003. Smokeless or loose tobacco products are taxed 10% of the wholesale price. Little cigars are taxed \$0.05 per twenty cigars. All other cigars are taxed 23% of the wholesale price.

#### **CLEAN INDOOR AIR ORDINANCES**

- Smoking is prohibited in childcare facilities, government workplaces, health care facilities, private workplaces (with some exceptions), recreational facilities, and schools.
- Smoking is prohibited in restaurants, unless access is denied to persons under the age of 18. Smoking is allowed in bars, unless access is allowed to persons under 18. Smoking is permitted in restaurants and bars if the establishment has an enclosed, separately ventilated, private room for smoking.

#### YOUTH ACCESS LAWS

- The minimum age requirement for the purchase of tobacco products is 18, 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 alternative nicotine products, including electronic cigarettes, is prohibited.

## **CESSATION STATISTICS AND BENEFITS**

- The CDC estimates that 52% of adult smokers in Georgia tried to quit smoking in 2013.<sup>®</sup>
- Georgia's Medicaid program covers individual counseling and all seven recommended cessation medications.<sup>9\*</sup>
- The state Medicaid program's barriers to coverage include limits on duration, annual limits, prior authorization required for some medications, use of certain cessation treatments required before using others, and required counseling for medications.<sup>9</sup>
- Georgia's state quitline invests \$0.78 per smoker; the national average investment per smoker is \$3.65.<sup>9</sup>
- Georgia does not have a private insurance mandate provision.<sup>9</sup>

## REFERENCES

- <sup>1</sup> CDC, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 2013
- <sup>2</sup> CDC, Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System, 2013
- <sup>3</sup> CDC, State-Specific Prevalence of Cigarette Smoking and Smokeless Tobacco Use Among Adults—MMWR, United States, 2011-2013
- <sup>4</sup> Goergia Youth Tobacco Survey, 2014
- <sup>5</sup> Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, Broken Promises to Our Children: a State-by-State Look at the 1998 State Tobacco Settlement 16 Years Later FY2015, 2014
- <sup>6</sup> Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, State Tobacco-Related Costs and Revenues, 2014
- <sup>7</sup> American Lung Association, SLATI State Reports, 2015
- <sup>8</sup> CDC, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, State Tobacco Activities Tracking and Evaluation System, 2013
- <sup>9</sup> American Lung Association, State of Tobacco Control, 2015
- \* The seven recommended cessation medications are NRT Gum, NRT Patch, NRT Nasal Spray, NRT Inhaler, NRT Lozenge, Varenicline (Chantix), and Buproprion (Zyban).

Fiore MC, Jaen CR, Baker TB, Bailiey WC, Benowitz NL, Curry SJ, 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.