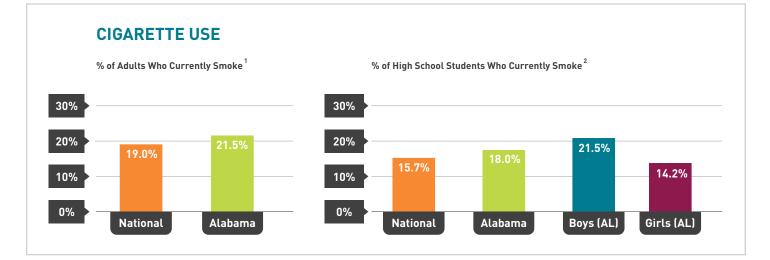




# ALABAMA + TOBACCO



## **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 2013, 14.7% of high school students in Alabama 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, 16.5% of high school students in Alabama 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 2014, 9.9% of high school students in Alabama used electronic cigarettes on at least one day in the past 30 days.<sup>2</sup>

## ECONOMICS OF TOBACCO USE AND TOBACCO CONTROL

- In FY2015, Alabama allocated \$362,000 in state funds to tobacco prevention, which is 0.6% of the Centers for Disease Controls and Prevention's (CDC) Annual Spending Target.<sup>5</sup>
- The health care costs in Alabama, directly caused by smoking, amount to 1.88 billion annually. $^{5}$

- State and federal Medicaid costs for Alabama total \$288.1 million annually for smoking-caused health care.  $^{\rm 5}$
- Alabama loses \$2.71 billion in productivity each year due to smoking.<sup>6</sup>
- Alabama received an estimated \$228 million in tobacco settlement payments and taxes in FY2015.  $^{\scriptscriptstyle 5}$

## STATE TOBACCO LAWS<sup>7,8</sup>

#### **EXCISE TAX**

• The state tax increased to \$0.425 per pack of cigarettes in May 2004. 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 childcare facilities, government workplaces, health care facilities, retail stores, recreational facilities, and schools. Smoking may take place in designated, well-ventilated areas in these places.
- There is no provision for smoking in private workplaces, restaurants, bars or casinos.

#### 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 alternative nicotine products, including electronic cigarettes, is prohibited.

### **CESSATION STATISTICS AND BENEFITS**

- The CDC estimates that 57.3% of adult smokers in Alabama tried to quit smoking in 2013.<sup>9</sup>
- Alabama's Medicaid program covers all seven recommended cessation medications and phone counseling. Individual counseling is only covered for women ages 18-55.<sup>8\*</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>8</sup>
- Alabama's state quitline invests \$0.35 per smoker; the national average investment per smoker is \$3.65.<sup>8</sup>
- Alabama does not have a private insurance mandate provision for cessation.<sup>8</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> Alabama Youth Tobacco Survey, 2013
- <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> American Lung Association, State of Tobacco Control, 2015
- <sup>°</sup> CDC, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, State Tobacco Activities Tracking and Evaluation System, 2013
- \* 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.