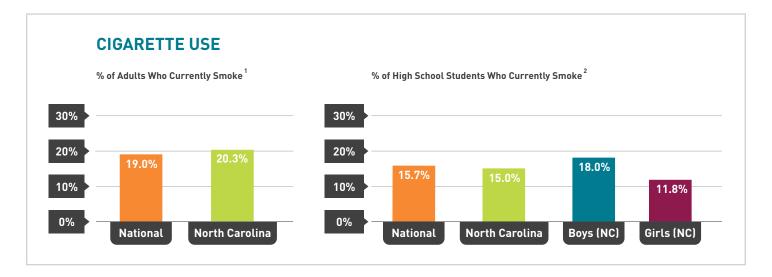


# NORTH CAROLINA + TOBACCO



## OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCT USE

- The prevalence of smokeless tobacco use among adults in North Carolina was 4.3% in 2013. 5.6% of adult current cigarette smokers in North Carolina were also current smokeless tobacco users in 2013.<sup>3</sup>
- In 2013, 8.5% of high school students in North Carolina 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, 7.7% of high school students in North Carolina used e-cigarettes on at least one day in the past 30 days.  $^4$
- In 2013, 6.1% of high school students in North Carolina used hookah on at least one day in the past 30 days.<sup>4</sup>

# **ECONOMICS OF TOBACCO USE AND TOBACCO CONTROL**

- In FY2015, North Carolina allocated \$1.2 million in state funds to tobacco prevention, which is 1.2% of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Annual Spending Target.
- The health care costs in North Carolina, directly caused by smoking, amount to \$3.81 billion annually.<sup>5</sup>

SEPTEMBER 2015 truthinitiative.org p 1

- State and federal Medicaid costs in North Carolina total \$931.4 million annually for smokingcaused health care.<sup>6</sup>
- North Carolina loses \$4.24 billion in productivity each year due to smoking.<sup>6</sup>
- North Carolina received an estimated \$422 million in tobacco settlement payments and taxes in FY2015.<sup>5</sup>

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

#### **EXCISE TAX**

• The state tax increased to \$0.45 per pack of cigarettes in September 2009. All other tobacco products are taxed 12.8% of the sales price.

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

- Smoking is prohibited in public schools, restaurants, and bars (except cigar bars).
- Smoking restrictions are required in all government workplaces, long-term health care facilities, and childcare facilities.
- Smoking is unrestricted in private workplaces, retail stores, and recreational facilities.

#### 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 vapor products, including electronic cigarettes, is prohibited.

## **CESSATION STATISTICS AND BENEFITS**

- ullet The CDC estimates that 53.1% of adult smokers in North Carolina tried to quit smoking in 2013.
- North Carolina's Medicaid program covers individual counseling and all seven recommended cessation medications.<sup>8\*</sup>
- The state Medicaid program's barriers to coverage include minimal co-payments.
- North Carolina's state quitline invests \$1.60 per smoker; the national average investment per smoker is \$3.65.8
- North Carolina does not have a private insurance mandate provision for cessation.

SEPTEMBER 2015 truthinitiative.org p 2

## **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
- 4 North Carolina 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
- ° 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.

SEPTEMBER 2015 truthinitiative.org p 3