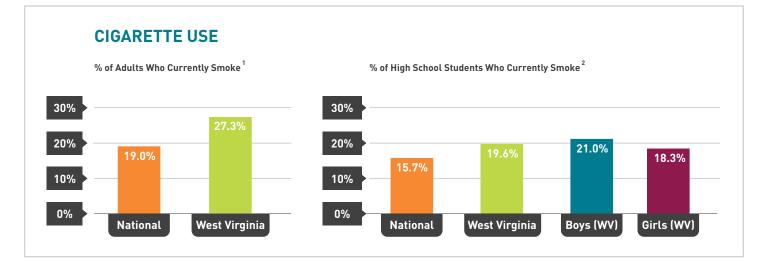




# WEST VIRGINIA + TOBACCO



## **OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCT USE**

- The prevalence of smokeless tobacco use among adults in West Virginia was 9.4% in 2013. 8.4% of adult current cigarette smokers in West Virginia were also current smokeless tobacco users in 2013.<sup>3</sup>
- In 2014, 7.3% of adults in West Virginia used an electronic cigarette every day, some days, or rarely.<sup>4</sup>
- In 2013, 15.9% of high school students in West Virginia 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, 13.4% of high school students in West Virginia 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>

## ECONOMICS OF TOBACCO USE AND TOBACCO CONTROL

- In FY2015, West Virginia allocated \$4.9 million in state funds to tobacco prevention, which is 17.8% of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Annual Spending Target.<sup>6</sup>
- The health care costs in West Virginia, directly caused by smoking, amount to \$1 billion

annually.6

- State and federal Medicaid costs for West Virginia total \$277.3 million annually for smokingcaused health care.<sup>7</sup>
- West Virginia loses \$1.23 billion in productivity each year due to smoking.<sup>7</sup>
- West Virginia received an estimated \$170 million in tobacco settlement payments and taxes in FY2015.  $^{\rm 6}$

### STATE TOBACCO LAWS<sup>8,9,10</sup>

#### **EXCISE TAX**

• The state tax increased to \$0.55 per pack of cigarettes in May 2003. All other tobacco products are taxed 7% of the wholesale price.

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

- Smoking is prohibited in public schools only.
- Smoking restrictions are required in all childcare facilities and government workplaces.

#### 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.
- The possession, importation, distribution, and sale of bidis to both minors and adults is prohibited.

## **CESSATION STATISTICS AND BENEFITS**

- The CDC estimates that 50.4% of adult smokers in West Virginia tried to quit smoking in 2013.<sup>11</sup>
- West Virginia's Medicaid program covers Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT) Gum, NRT Patch, NRT Nasal spray, NRT Inhaler, NRT Lozenge, and Bupropion (Zyban) for members enrolled in enhanced benefits package. Coverage for group and phone counseling varies by health plan.<sup>9\*</sup>
- The state Medicaid program's barriers to coverage include limits on duration, annual limits on quit attempts, prior authorization requirements, co-payments, required use of some medications before using others, and counseling requirements to get medications.<sup>9</sup>
- West Virginia's state quitline invests \$3.19 per smoker; the national average investment per smoker is \$3.65.<sup>9</sup>
- West Virginia does not have a private insurance mandate provision for cessation.<sup>9</sup>

## REFERENCES

- <sup>1</sup> CDC, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 2013
- <sup>2</sup> CDC, Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System, 2011
- <sup>3</sup> West Virginia Adult Tobacco Survey, 2014
- <sup>4</sup> CDC, Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System, 2013
- <sup>5</sup> CDC, State-Specific Prevalence of Cigarette Smoking and Smokeless Tobacco Use Among Adults—MMWR, United States, 2011-2013
- <sup>6</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>7</sup> Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, State Tobacco-Related Costs and Revenues, 2014
- <sup>8</sup> American Lung Association, SLATI State Reports, 2015
- <sup>9</sup> American Lung Association, State of Tobacco Control, 2015
- <sup>10</sup> West Virginia Department of Taxes
- <sup>11</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.