

WASHINGTON 21

RAISE THE TOBACCO AGE



Toll of Tobacco in Washington State

THE TOLL OF TOBACCO IN WASHINGTON

High school students who smoke	7.9% (28,000)
Male high school students who smoke cigars (female use much lower)	N/A
High school students who use e-cigarettes	18.0%
Kids (under 18) who become new daily smokers each year	2,500
Adults in Washington who smoke	14.0% (792,100)
Proportion of cancer deaths in Washington attributable to smoking	27.4%

U.S. NATIONAL DATA

High school smoking rate (2016)	8.0%
Male high school students who smoke cigars (2016)	9.9%
High school students who use e-cigarettes	11.3%
Adult smoking rate (2015)	15.1%

DEATHS IN WASHINGTON FROM SMOKING

Adults who die each year from their own smoking	8,300
Kids now under 18 and alive in Washington who will ultimately die prematurely from smoking	104,000

Smoking kills more people than alcohol, AIDS, car crashes, illegal drugs, murders, and suicides combined — and thousands more die from other tobacco-related causes — such as fires caused by smoking (more than 1,000 deaths/year nationwide) and smokeless tobacco use.

SMOKING-CAUSED MONETARY COSTS IN WASHINGTON

Annual health care costs in Washington directly caused by smoking	\$2.81 billion
Medicaid costs caused by smoking in Washington	\$788.5 million
Residents' state & federal tax burden from smoking-caused government expenditures	\$789 per household
Smoking-caused productivity losses in Washington	\$2.2 billion

Amounts do not include health costs caused by exposure to secondhand smoke, smoking-caused fires, smokeless tobacco use, or cigar and pipe smoking. Tobacco use also imposes additional costs such as workplace productivity losses and damage to property.

TOBACCO INDUSTRY INFLUENCE IN WASHINGTON

Annual tobacco industry marketing expenditures nationwide	\$9.1 billion
Estimated portion spent for Washington marketing each year	\$88.4 million

Published research studies have found that kids are twice as sensitive to tobacco advertising as adults and are more likely to be influenced to smoke by cigarette marketing than by peer pressure. One-third of underage experimentation with smoking is attributable to tobacco company advertising.