

South Dakota Adults and Tobacco

Tobacco addiction starts in childhood. In South Dakota, 28.2% of high school students smoke and most of them will continue smoking in adulthood. Nearly 90% of the adult smokers in this country took that first puff before age 19. Despite vigorous campaigns about the dangers of tobacco use, the tobacco companies are winning the battle for new consumers nationwide and in South Dakota.

Tobacco (cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, cigars, and pipe tobacco) is the second most commonly used substance next to alcohol. Most tobacco use is in the form of smoking cigarettes, and smoking is deadly. It kills more people than AIDS, motor vehicle accidents, murders, suicides, drugs, and alcohol combined. Tobacco-related effects are also deadly; thousands die each year from fires caused by smoking and from smokeless tobacco use.

The following statistics, based on South Dakota's 2007 Youth Risk Behavior Survey, were taken from the www.sdtobaccofree.org website.

Adult Tobacco Use in South Dakota

- One out of every five South Dakota adults smokes cigarettes.
- 1,100 smoking adults die each year of tobacco-related illness.
- Smoking has decreased 20.3% since 1998.
- Smokers pay a South Dakota excise tax of \$1.53 on every pack of cigarettes.

Tobacco's Impact on Non-Smoking South Dakotans

- 45,000 children are exposed to secondhand smoke at home.
- Tobacco-related diseases of nonsmokers (due to secondhand smoke) are at about 1,300 annually.
- 90 to 160 adults, children, and babies die each year due to exposure to secondhand smoke or pregnancy smoking.
- According to a 2008 Tobacco Use Study by the Department of Social Services, 45% of cigarette smokers smoke in their homes in any room at any time. Over 30% smoke in their cars. These numbers have decreased dramatically since the 2005 survey.
- 1,300 children under the age of 18 become new daily smokers each year.
- 2.6 million packs of cigarettes are bought and smoked by children each year.

Tobacco's Economic Impact on South Dakota

- Annual health care costs directly related to smoking are at \$274,000,000.
- The State Medicaid program assumes \$58,000,000 of that cost.
- Residents' state and federal tax burden from smoking-related government costs is \$575 per household.
- Smoking-caused productivity losses are \$228,000,000 annually.

Tobacco Industry's Marketing Influence in South Dakota

- \$37.7 million is spent in our state every year on tobacco marketing.
- Children are twice as sensitive to tobacco advertising than adults and are more likely to be influenced to smoke by cigarette marketing than by peer pressure.



South Dakota Adults and Tobacco, cont.

South Dakota Tobacco-Use Policies

- Smoking is prohibited in enclosed, indoor public spaces and worksites. Separate rooms for smoking or designated smoking areas are no longer allowed. Establishments with alcohol, video lottery, or gaming licenses are exempt. Hotel sleeping rooms are also exempt. Private residences are exempt unless used for daycare.
- Fiscal Year 2008 Rankings for State Funding for Tobacco Prevention puts South Dakota at 20 out of 50 states and the District of Columbia, moving up in rank from 40 in the 2007 Ranking. South Dakota is currently funding Tobacco Prevention at 57.5% of the Centers for Disease Control's minimum recommendations.

You may smoke, but do you want your children to smoke? Remember that many smokers grew up in households where a parent smoked or it was permissible to smoke. If you are concerned about your health and the health of those around you, it's time to quit. Definitely quit before your children start smoking. The South Dakota QuitLine (1-866-SD-QUITS) will help with information and personal coaching. If you need medication to quit, the South Dakota QuitLine can pay for the medication to help you do so.

For more information on adult tobacco use and South Dakota resources, please visit:

<http://www.sdtobaccofree.org/toll.htm>

<http://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/states/sd.htm>

<http://www.befreesd.com>