

# Santa Cruz County 2003 Health Almanac

## Tobacco Use

See: [Substance Abuse](#) - SCC Youth Drug and Alcohol survey, 2002 Summary Report

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## Agencies and Information Sources

### **Santa Cruz County (SCC) Health Services Agency** - <http://www.santacruzhealth.org>

The Health Services Agency (HSA) exists to protect and improve the health of the people in Santa Cruz County. The Agency provides programs in Environmental Health, Public Health, Medical Care, Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment, and Mental Health.

### **California Department of Health Services** - <http://www.dhs.ca.gov/default.htm>

To Protect and Improve the Health of All Californians

### **California Health Interview Survey** - <http://www.chis.ucla.edu/index.html>

The California Health Interview Survey (CHIS) is the largest state health survey conducted in the United States. Every two years, CHIS plans to collect information on the health and health care needs of California's diverse population.

### **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention** - <http://www.cdc.gov/default.htm>

CDC's Mission is to promote health and quality of life by preventing and controlling disease, injury, and disability. CDC's tobacco specific site is <http://www.cdc.gov/health/tobacco.htm> and covers:

#### [CDC's Tobacco Information and Prevention Source \(TIPS\)](#)

- **Educational Materials**
- **Global Tobacco Control**
- **How to Quit**
- **Research Data & Reports**
- **Surgeon General Reports**
- **Tobacco Control Program Guidelines and Data**
- **Tobacco Free Celebrities**
- **Tobacco Free Sports**
- **Tobacco Related MMWR Articles**
- **Tobacco & Women**

SCC Tobacco specific site: <http://www.santacruzhealth.org/phealth/healthed/3tobacco.htm>

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## Overall

The prevalence of current smoking among U.S. adults has declined over time from 24.7% in 1997 to 24.1% in 1998, 23.5% in 1999, 23.3% in 2000, and 22.3% in 2001 (January to June).

<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/fastats/smoking.htm>

## Smoking - National

(All figures are for U.S.)

The number one cause of preventable disease and death in the United States is tobacco.

Tobacco use contributes to diseases such as heart disease, lung and esophageal cancer, and chronic lung disease. Smoking also contributes to cancers of the bladder, pancreas, kidney, and many other adverse health outcomes. In 2002, nearly 18,000 new cases of lung cancer alone will be reported and will account for over 14,000 deaths. Tobacco use kills more people every year than alcohol, cocaine, heroin, homicide, suicide, car accidents, fires, and AIDS combined.

Percent of Men Ages 18 and Over Who Smoke Cigarettes: 25.7% (2000)

Percent of Women Ages 18 and Over Who Smoke Cigarettes: 21.0% (2000)

<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/fastats/smoking.htm>

## Smoking - CA

From 1996 until late in 2001 smoking prevalence (if they had smoked in the past 30 days) among California adults declined from 18.6% to 17.4%. Among young Californians (aged 18 to 24) smoking prevalence has increased from 20.6% to 23.6%. Adolescent (ages 16 to 17) Californians 1999 smoking prevalence averaged 7.7+/-0.8%. Overall smoking prevalence of all aged Californians declined from 26.2% in 1985 to 17.4% in 2001.

In 1999 Californians consumed only 4.1 packs of cigarettes per person per month compared to 9.1 in the rest of the United States. In 1999 only 13.0+/-3% of Californians were daily smokers and only 6.4+/-0.4% of California college graduates were daily smokers.

### CA

Ever smoked cigarettes regularly	Est. N	%	95% C.I.
Have smoked regularly	154,000	5.2	(4.5 - 6.0)
Have not smoked regularly	2,796,000	94.8	(94.0 - 95.5)
Total	2,949,000	100.0	n/a

Source: 2001 California Health Interview Survey

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Ever smoked cigarettes regularly	Est. N	%	95% C.I.
Have smoked regularly	1,000 *	5.9 *	(0.8 - 11.1)
Have not smoked regularly	20,000	94.1	(88.9 - 99.2)
Total	21,000	100.0	n/a

\* = Statistically unstable

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### Ever Smoked Cigarettes Regularly (Teens) CHIS 2001

	Ever Smoked Cigarettes Regularly	
	Smoked regularly	Have Not Smoked Regularly
California--Total (Teens)	5.2	94.8
Santa Cruz	5.9*	94.1

\* Statistically unstable

### Santa Cruz County Health Services Agency Tobacco Education Coalition

The Santa Cruz County Health Services Agency staffs the Santa Cruz County Tobacco Education Coalition, an advocacy group that promotes a tobacco-free lifestyle and environment. The Coalition was formed in 1985 and is currently funded by Proposition 99, the sales tax on cigarettes. The Coalition consists of community organizations as well as concerned grandparents, ex-smokers, and people who have lost a loved one to smoking.

### Cost of Smoking in California, 1999 CA Dept of Health Services, Tobacco Control Section

- The economic burden of smoking in California in 1999 amounted to \$15.8 billion.
- The cost of smoking in California was \$475 per Californian and \$3,331 per smoker.

The cost of smoking per resident varies among counties, from \$392 in Santa Clara County to \$1,022 in Trinity County (considering only counties with statistically reliable estimates).

- While there are fewer smokers in California than there were a decade ago, 4.7 million Californians still smoke. Included are 4.5 million adults and 207,000 adolescents.
- More males than females smoke in California – 2.7 million or 22.1 percent of adult men and 1.9 million or 15.3 percent adult women. Adolescent males smoke at similar rates to adolescent females– 7.7 percent vs. 7.4 percent.
- The cost of smoking for men is greater than that for women - \$9.4 billion compared to \$6.3 billion. Direct costs and indirect lost productivity costs due to illness are similar for men and women, while indirect costs of lost productivity from premature death are substantially greater for men.
- Direct health care costs of smoking account for 54 percent of the total cost of smoking in California - \$8.6 billion. Lost productivity due to illness comprises ten percent of the total, or \$1.5 billion, and lost productivity from premature death comprises the remaining 36 percent, or \$5.7 billion.
- Expenditures for hospital care of current and former smokers amount to \$4.0 billion, or 47 percent of total direct medical costs; ambulatory care services amount to \$2.1 billion or 24 percent; nursing home care amounts to \$1.3 billion or 15 percent; prescription drugs amount to \$1.1 billion; and home health care amounts to \$87 million.
- Almost one in five deaths in California in 1999 are attributed to smoking, for a total of 43,137 deaths. This represents \$5.7 billion in lost productivity and 535,000 years of

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potential life lost, or 12.4 years lost per death.

- Men account for 58 percent of deaths attributed to smoking, 59 percent of years of potential life lost, and 78 percent of the value of lost productivity.
- Smoking rates have declined in the ten-year period, 1989 to 1999. Comparison of the 1999 cost estimates with those for 1989, however, shows that the total more than doubled and the amount of increase among different cost components varied. Direct costs almost tripled during the ten-year period. These increases result from inflation in medical care costs, use of different methodology and different data sources.

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	Currently Smoke		Formerly Smoked		Never Smoked		Smoking Prevalence
	Percent		Percent		Percent		
	Number	of Total	Number	of Total	Number	of Total	
<b>Total</b>	34,127	16.9	50,213	24.8	117,953	58.3	
<b>Men</b>	21,433	21.2	31,496	31.2	48,163	47.6	
12--17	436	4.3	1,321	13.2	8,281	82.5	
18+	20,997	23.1	30,175	33.1	39,882	43.8	
<b>Women</b>	12,694	12.5	18,717	18.5	69,790	69.0	
12--17	1,006	11.2	1,211	13.4	6,802	75.4	
18+	11,689	12.7	17,505	19.0	62,988	68.3	

	Due to Smoking			Deaths
	Percent		Percent of Total	
	Total	Number		
<b>Total</b>	1,632	275	16.8	
<b>Men</b>	822	161	19.6	
<b>Women</b>	810	114	14.1	



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	Number	Years	Years of Potential Life Lost
	of Years	per Death	
<b>Total</b>	3,182	11.6	
<b>Men</b>	1,965	12.2	
<b>Women</b>	1,217	10.7	

	Amount	Per	Lost Productivity from Premature Death
	(thousands)	Death	
<b>Total</b>	\$34,909	\$126,984	
<b>Men</b>	29,975	186,450	
<b>Women</b>	4,934	43,230	