

## Massachusetts Tobacco Statistics and Facts 2009

### Who Smokes?

16.1% of men smoke  
14.0% of women smoke  
14.9% of whites  
18.1% of blacks  
14.6% of Hispanics smoke  
21.1% of young adults smoke [the highest of any age group.]

### **Use of tobacco products by pregnant women in Massachusetts**

6.9% of pregnant mothers in MA smoked during their pregnancy

Babies born to smokers are 1.5 to 3.5 times more likely to have low birth weights than babies born to nonsmoking mothers. Low-birth weight babies are at risk for serious health problems throughout their lives

In Pittsfield (23.3%), the rate was over three times higher than the statewide rate. Fall River (18.7%), New Bedford (15.5%), and Taunton (13.9%) had rates two or more times the statewide rate.

### Youth use of tobacco products on Massachusetts as of March 2010

For the first time in Massachusetts, high school students' use of other tobacco products (cigars, smokeless tobacco) in the past 30 days (17.6%) was higher than their rate of cigarette smoking in the past 30 days (16.0%).

#### *Cigarette Use by Race/Ethnicity*

Seventeen percent of white high school students reported that they are current cigarette smokers compared to 14% of Hispanic students, and 10% of black students  
Among middle school students, lifetime cigarette use among Black students (19%) and Hispanic students (22%) is higher than for White, non-Hispanics (13%)

#### *Smokeless Tobacco Use*

Current use of smokeless tobacco among high school students was 7.9% in 2009  
Among male high school students, current smokeless tobacco use was 13.9% in 2009.  
Lifetime use of smokeless tobacco among middle school students was 2.2% in 2009.

### Secondhand Smoke in Massachusetts

15 % of Massachusetts households with children permit smoking within the home.

Approx 200,000 children are exposed to secondhand smoke

More than 500,000 (14%) adult nonsmokers in Massachusetts are exposed secondhand smoke in the home, at work, or in other places more than one hour per week.

Nonsmokers who are exposed to secondhand smoke at home or work increase their heart disease risk by 25–30% and their lung cancer risk by 20–30%.<sup>3</sup>

Secondhand smoke contains at least 250 chemicals known to be toxic, including more than 50 that can cause cancer

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control report that secondhand smoke causes sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), acute respiratory infections, ear problems, and more frequent and severe asthma attacks in children

#### Exposure Stats

16% of nonsmoking men were exposed to secondhand smoke; 14% of women.

13% of whites, 18% of blacks, and

21% of Hispanics were exposed.

28% of young adult (18-24) non-smokers were exposed, the highest of any age group.

#### Economic Costs of Smoking as of 2008

Smoking costs Massachusetts an estimated \$6.0 billion annually

4.3 billion due to excess direct health care costs;

\$1.7 billion is from lost productivity due to premature death.

Massachusetts spends over \$10 million each day in direct medical costs related to smoking.

Massachusetts experiences \$4 million each day in lost productivity due to premature death from smoking.

Each pack of cigarettes sold in Massachusetts costs the state an estimated \$15.33 in direct health care costs and \$6.08 in lost productivity.