



for a great state of health

# Nebraska Tobacco Facts

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*Every year, Nebraska spends \$606 per person  
— no matter their age —  
for smoking related medical expenses and lost productivity.*

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- Adult smoking rate: 18.4% in 2008.
- Youth (grades 9-12) smoking rate: 22.3% in 2007 — down from 39.2% in 1997.
- High school youth who use smokeless (chew) tobacco: 13.0% in 2007 — down from 17.1% in 1997.
- In 2006, 30% of Nebraska's middle-school students had used some form of tobacco at least once.
- Nearly 2,400 Nebraskans die each year from smoking.
- Number of kids now under 18 who will likely die early from smoking (if current trends continue): 36,000.
- 96,000 kids are exposed to secondhand smoke at home.
- 4.7 million packs of cigarettes are illegally bought or smoked by kids each year.
- Annual smoking related medical costs in Nebraska: \$537 million.
- Annual cost of lost productivity due to tobacco use: \$500 million.
- Annual cost to Medicaid for smoking-related illnesses and diseases: \$134 million.
- 97.3 percent of Nebraskans agree that inhaling smoke from a parent's cigarette harms babies and children.
- Over three-quarters (76.8 percent) of Nebraskans agree that restaurants should not allow smoking.
- The smoking rate among pregnant women in Nebraska is 14.9%.

Sources: Nebraska Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), Nebraska Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), Nebraska Youth Tobacco Survey (YTS), Nebraska Vital Statistics, Nebraska Adult Tobacco/Social Climate Survey, Nebraska Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS), U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids