



Smoking & Tobacco Use

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Costs and Expenditures



Smoking costs the United States billions of dollars each year.¹

- Cigarette smoking cost the United States more than \$600 billion in 2018, including:
 - More than \$240 billion in healthcare spending,^{2,3}
 - Nearly \$185 billion in lost productivity from smoking-related illnesses and health conditions,³
 - Nearly \$180 billion in lost productivity from smoking-related premature death,^{3,4}
 - \$7 billion in lost productivity from premature death from secondhand smoke exposure.^{4,5*}

The tobacco industry spends billions of dollars each year on cigarette and smokeless tobacco advertising and promotions.^{6,7}

- \$8.2 billion was spent on advertising and promotion of cigarettes and smokeless tobacco combined—about \$22.5 million every day, and nearly \$1 million every hour. Smokeless tobacco products include dry snuff, moist snuff, plug/twist, loose-leaf chewing tobacco, snus, and dissolvable products.
- Price discounts to retailers account for 74.7% of all cigarette marketing (about \$5.7 billion). These are discounts paid in order to reduce the price of cigarettes to consumers.

State spending on tobacco prevention and control does not meet CDC-recommended levels.^{1,8,9}

- States have billions of dollars from the taxes they put on tobacco products and money from lawsuits against cigarette companies that they can use to prevent smoking and help smokers quit. Right now, though, the states only use a very small amount of that money to prevent and control tobacco use.
- In fiscal year 2020, states will collect \$27.2 billion from tobacco taxes and settlements in court, but will only spend \$740 million in the same year. That's only 2.7% of it spent on programs that can stop young people from becoming smokers and help current smokers quit.⁸
- Right now, not a single state out of 50 funds these programs at CDC's "recommended" level. Only three states (Alaska, California, and Maine) give even 70% of the full recommended amount. Twenty-eight states and the District of Columbia spend less than 20 percent of what the CDC recommends. One state, Connecticut, gives no state funds for prevention and quit-smoking programs.⁸
- Spending 12% (about \$3.3 billion) of the \$27.2 billion would fund every state's tobacco control program at CDC-recommended levels.⁸

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*The \$7 billion number is based on original Max, et al estimate ⁴, updated to 2018 dollars.
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Last Reviewed: July 28, 2022