



FATHER'S DAY DATA ON SMOKING DADS AND RELATED HARMS

For many kids, Father's Day means taking dad out to breakfast, giving him a gift or just saying thanks. But hundreds of thousands of kids throughout the United States have fathers who smoke, and smoking still is America's number one preventable cause of death. On this special day for dads, one great way to celebrate could be to pledge to give dads who currently smoke the kind of loving support and encouragement that will help them make this the year that they become tobacco-free. Another lasting tribute could be to support new tobacco control initiatives in your state or community—like smoke-free policies, tobacco taxes and state funding for tobacco cessation programs—that will not only help smoking dads quit but also prevent their children from becoming another statistic in the terrible toll that tobacco addiction takes on America's dads and their families.

States	Smoking Rate Among Men	State Rank Men Smoking (1 st is lowest)	Number of Men Smokers	Annual Smoking Deaths Among Men	Kids in State Who Have Already Lost Their Dads to Smoking	New Kids Who Lose Their Dads to Smoking Each Year	Total State Health Costs to Treat Male Smokers (millions/year)
United States	12.5%	--	16,061,300	254,100	216,000	30,000	\$140.2 billion
Alabama	16.8%	43rd	319,600	5,200	4,100	590	\$1,340.2
Alaska	16.8%	43rd	49,500	300	500	80	\$300.3
Arizona	11.6%	13th	336,200	4,700	3,900	550	\$1,584.1
Arkansas	15.8%	39th	182,000	3,500	2,600	360	\$853.4
California	11.3%	10th	1,708,900	22,600	21,800	3,000	\$8,744.7
Colorado	11.4%	11th	268,400	2,800	2,700	380	\$1,222.1
Connecticut	10.0%	3rd	140,400	2,500	2,100	300	\$1,237.8
Delaware	11.8%	15th	46,100	700	600	90	\$339.1
Washington, DC	14.9%	31st	38,300	400	500	70	\$258.8
Florida	12.4%	19th	1,099,800	18,400	14,200	2,000	\$5,727.7
Georgia	14.8%	30th	603,900	6,900	7,200	1,000	\$2,211.5
Hawaii	10.2%	4th	57,900	900	700	100	\$396.0
Idaho	11.6%	13th	86,800	1,000	900	120	\$350.9
Illinois	12.2%	17th	587,900	10,300	8,600	1,200	\$3,608.7
Indiana	14.9%	31st	385,900	6,300	4,700	660	\$1,946.7
Iowa	14.9%	31st	183,900	3,000	1,600	220	\$883.5
Kansas	14.4%	29th	161,100	2,500	1,600	230	\$758.3
Kentucky	19.4%	*	334,000	5,100	3,500	490	\$1,293.9
Louisiana	17.1%	45th	289,000	4,300	4,900	700	\$1,317.2
Maine	15.2%	34th	85,000	1,300	800	110	\$532.3
Maryland	11.1%	9th	256,200	4,000	4,400	620	\$1,690.0
Massachusetts	12.4%	19th	338,900	4,800	3,600	510	\$2,472.9
Michigan	14.0%	26th	544,700	9,100	7,600	1,000	\$3,024.5
Minnesota	12.8%	23rd	282,900	3,400	2,400	340	\$1,703.6
Mississippi	17.3%	46th	186,700	3,300	3,300	460	\$892.7
Missouri	16.5%	42nd	388,100	6,200	5,200	730	\$1,997.5
Montana	12.4%	19th	56,100	800	700	100	\$289.8
Nebraska	13.4%	24th	100,100	1,400	1,000	140	\$548.4

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Nevada	15.6%	35th	196,000	2,200	1,600	230	\$709.6
New Hampshire	10.8%	7th	61,600	1,000	700	100	\$458.5
New Jersey	9.7%	2nd	343,700	6,300	5,500	780	\$2,530.6
New Mexico	15.6%	35th	128,000	1,500	1,600	230	\$570.5
New York	10.9%	8th	820,600	14,800	11,700	1,600	\$6,346.9
North Carolina	16.3%	40th	668,700	8,300	6,400	910	\$2,608.8
North Dakota	14.3%	28th	44,000	600	300	50	\$235.8
Ohio	15.7%	38th	705,500	11,500	7,200	1,000	\$3,739.2
Oklahoma	16.4%	41st	249,500	4,300	3,200	460	\$1,099.6
Oregon	11.4%	11th	191,700	3,000	2,500	360	\$1,009.5
Pennsylvania	15.9%	*	801,500	12,400	8,100	1,100	\$4,178.4
Rhode Island	10.7%	5th	46,300	900	600	80	\$380.2
South Carolina	14.2%	27th	287,900	4,400	3,900	560	\$1,369.9
South Dakota	17.3%	46th	61,200	700	600	90	\$267.0
Tennessee	18.2%	48th	489,900	6,700	5,800	820	\$1,847.7
Texas	12.5%	22nd	1,419,300	16,500	18,000	2,500	\$6,083.0
Utah	7.4%	1st	92,600	800	1,100	160	\$413.6
Vermont	12.0%	16th	31,400	500	300	50	\$223.2
Virginia	12.3%	18th	410,900	5,800	4,900	690	\$2,062.9
Washington	10.7%	5th	330,600	4,600	3,900	550	\$1,816.9
West Virginia	19.4%	49th	136,300	2,400	1,500	220	\$667.7
Wisconsin	13.5%	25th	313,100	4,500	2,900	410	\$1,785.6
Wyoming	15.6%	35th	36,200	400	400	60	\$168.6
United States	12.5%	--	16,026,100	254,100	216,000	30,000	\$140.2 billion

Men = 18 years and older. Kids = Less than 18 years old

Sources: State-specific smoking rates: 2023 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) except for KY and PA, which are from 2022 BRFSS. National: 2023 National Health Interview Survey (NHIS). U.S. Bureau of Census 2023 population estimates used to compute national and state-specific number of male smokers. National and state-specific annual smoking deaths from the CDC's STATE System (average annual deaths from 2005-2009), which is the most current state-specific data by gender available. Estimates of lost dads: Leistikow, B, et al., "Estimates of Smoking-Attributable Deaths at Ages 15-54, Motherless or Fatherless Youths, and Resulting Social Security Costs in the United States in 1994," *Preventive Medicine* 30(5):353-360, May 2000, and state-specific data provided by the author. Costs: CDC, *Best Practices for Comprehensive Tobacco Control Programs 2014*, <https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/php/state-and-community-work/guides-for-states.html>, based on male proportion of annual smoking deaths (costs adjusted to 2018 dollars by the CDC's methodology of using the Bureau of Economic Analysis' price indexes for Gross Domestic Products).

Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, May 28, 2025, Hope Neuling