

## Smoking in Rhode Island

### TOBACCO PREVENTION AND CONTROL SPENDING

#### CURRENT STATUS

\$121 million: RI cigarette tax revenue, 2009

\$15 million: CDC recommended spending

\$4 million: total funding for state tobacco control programs

**GRADE: F**

#### Opportunity

Increase spending on tobacco control programs to reduce high economic costs of smoking in RI

**SMOKE-FREE AIR** concerns toxic secondhand smoke and encouraging smokers quit

#### CURRENT STATUS

2009: Smokefree Workplace & Public Place Law passed

**GRADE: A**

#### Opportunity

Promote smoke-free environment at home and in enclosed vehicles, especially when children are present.

**GOAL** The Women's Health Council of RI continues to track metrics and report card data as well as advocate for research, analysis and policy improvements for Women's Health. Check back often for more information at [www.womenshealthcouncil.org](http://www.womenshealthcouncil.org).

### CIGARETTE TAX

#### CURRENT STATUS

\$3.46: state cigarette tax- the highest in the country

**GRADE: A**

#### Opportunity

Minors who smoke paid \$6.92 million in cigarette tax (2010). Earmark funds to enforce minor access laws and exposure to advertising.

**CESSATION** concerns making medications and counseling covered and accessible

#### CURRENT STATUS

Medicaid programs cover over-the-counter treatments, prescription treatments, and smoking cessation counseling

Private insurance mandate for cessation provisions spending

**GRADE: D**

#### Opportunity

Integrate more smoking cessation and prevention services in the primary care setting

#### SOURCE

Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey, 2010, <http://www.cdc.gov/brfss/index.htm>  
RI Department of Health  
American Lung Association



Women's Health  
Council of RI

#### ADULTS WHO CURRENTLY SMOKE (2010)

**15.7%** of RI adults    **17.3%** of US adults

#### HEALTH CONSEQUENCES OF SMOKING

The average reduction in life expectancy attributed to smoking: **14 years**

**1 out of every 5 deaths** in the US each year is caused by smoking

**Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death** in the US and there are **no widely recommended screening tests** for this cancer

#### SMOKING IN RI

**Economic cost** associated with smoking in RI: **\$869,948,000**

Estimated **number of people who die each year** in RI from illnesses directly linked to tobacco use and secondhand smoke exposure: **1,750**

Each year, **1,400 children** in RI under the age of 18 **become new daily smokers**

The estimated **children exposed to secondhand smoke at home: 50,000**