Tobacco Use and Exposure – Anchorage Borough

![Tobacco Use and Exposure Chart]

Note: Prenatal smoking, PRAMS 2000-2006 data. Other indicators, BRFSS 2004-2007 data. 95% confidence interval half-widths (margins of error) are presented in parentheses.

Community Indicators for Anchorage Borough

- 86% of adults have a household ban on smoking (± 2%)
- 82% of adults agree that smoking should not be allowed in public indoor areas (± 2%)
- 77% of adults agree that smoking should not be allowed in restaurants (± 2%)
- 88% of those who work mostly indoors are protected by smokefree workplace policies (± 2%)
- 58% of smokers tried to quit in the past year (± 5%)
- 55% of current and former smokers started smoking regularly before age 18 (± 5%)

People Affected in Anchorage Borough 2007 population: 283,823

Approximately:

- 40,450 adults smoke
- 5,340 adults use smokeless tobacco
- 24,050 adults are exposed to secondhand smoke in their homes
- 7,430 youth are exposed to secondhand smoke in their homes
- 635 infants are exposed prenatally* to tobacco smoke each year
- 810 cancers diagnosed in the past five years are smoking-related
- 920 adults have died in the past five years from smoking-related causes

Youth Tobacco Use and Exposure – Statewide

Statewide Summary on Youth and Tobacco

- Cigarette smoking among Alaska high school students has decreased from 37% in 1995 to 18% in 2007
- Cigarette smoking among Alaska Native high school students has decreased from 62% in 1995 to 32% in 2007
- In 2007, 69% of Alaska youth smokers got their cigarettes primarily from other people around them
- 9% of retailers sold tobacco products to minors in 2007

Local Policies and Activities for Tobacco Prevention and Control – Anchorage Borough

- The Alaska Tobacco Prevention and Control Program awards grants to local and regional organizations for local tobacco prevention and control. Contact the Program for an updated list of grantees.
- Local school districts may participate in the Youth Risk Behavior Survey, and organizations can work with them to obtain local information about youth tobacco use and exposure.
- Some boroughs and municipalities in Alaska have health and safety powers and can set local policy and taxes.
- The Borough of Anchorage is a Unified Home Rule Municipality, with three unincorporated communities in addition to the Municipality of Anchorage. For more information on Borough and Municipal government, see these sites: [http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/rlinks/government/ak_local.html](http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/rlinks/government/ak_local.html) and [http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/LOGON/home.cfm](http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/LOGON/home.cfm)
- The Borough of Anchorage has local taxes on tobacco products.
- The Borough of Anchorage has local policies regarding secondhand smoke.

State Program Contact Information:
Alaska Tobacco Prevention and Control Program
Alaska Department of Health and Social Services
Phone: 907-269-2020
E-mail: tobacco@alaska.gov
Web: [http://www.hss.state.ak.us/dph/chronic/tobacco/default.htm](http://www.hss.state.ak.us/dph/chronic/tobacco/default.htm)

*Prenatal Smoke Exposure during the Last Three Months of Pregnancy.

Data Sources: Adult Tobacco Use and Exposure – AK DHSS, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS); Youth Tobacco Use – AK Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS); Population Estimates – AK Department of Labor and Workforce Development; Maternal Smoking During Pregnancy – AK Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS); Tobacco-Related Cancer Incidence – AK Cancer Registry; Birth and Death Data – AK Bureau of Vital Statistics. See Appendices for Additional Information.