Tobacco Use and Exposure – Fairbanks North Star Borough

### Community Indicators for Fairbanks North Star Borough

- 83% of adults have a household ban on smoking (± 2%)
- 80% of adults agree that smoking should not be allowed in public indoor areas (± 2%)
- 69% of adults agree that smoking should not be allowed in restaurants (± 2%)
- 81% of those who work mostly indoors are protected by smokefree workplace policies (± 3%)
- 60% of smokers tried to quit in the past year (± 4%)
- 56% of current and former smokers started smoking regularly before age 18 (± 4%)

### People Affected in Fairbanks North Star Borough

Approximately:
- 13,780 adults smoke
- 2,940 adults use smokeless tobacco
- 8,880 adults are exposed to secondhand smoke in their homes
- 2,410 youth are exposed to secondhand smoke in their homes
- 215 infants are exposed prenatally* to tobacco smoke each year
- 245 cancers diagnosed in the past five years are smoking-related
- 270 adults have died in the past five years from smoking-related causes

*Note: Prenatal smoking, PRAMS 2000-2006 data, for region including Fairbanks North Star Borough and Southeast Fairbanks Census Area. Other indicators, BRFSS 2004-2007 data. 95% confidence interval half-widths (margins of error) are presented in parentheses.
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 – Fairbanks North Star 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.
- Fairbanks North Star Borough is a 2nd Class Borough, with two Home Rule Cities and several unincorporated communities. For more information on Borough and Municipal government, see these sites: [http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/links/government/ak_local.html](http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/links/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)
- Both the City and Borough of Fairbanks have have local taxes on tobacco products.
- Two communities in the Fairbanks North Star Borough have 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.