Tobacco Use and Exposure – Matanuska-Susitna Borough

### Tobacco Use and Exposure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adults who are current smokers (± 3%)</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adults who currently use smokeless tobacco (± 2%)</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women who smoked during the last 3 months of pregnancy (± 3%)</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adults exposed to secondhand smoke in their home (± 4%)</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 Matanuska-Susitna Borough

- 81% of adults have a household ban on smoking (± 4%)
- 71% of adults agree that smoking should not be allowed in public indoor areas (± 5%)
- 63% of adults agree that smoking should not be allowed in restaurants (± 5%)
- 78% of those who work mostly indoors are protected by smokefree workplace policies (± 6%)
- 60% of smokers tried to quit in the past year (± 7%)
- 52% of current and former smokers started smoking regularly before age 18 (± 8%)

### People Affected in Matanuska-Susitna Borough

Approximately:
- 15,890 adults smoke
- 2,670 adults use smokeless tobacco
- 10,210 adults are exposed to secondhand smoke in their homes
- 3,120 youth are exposed to secondhand smoke in their homes
- 170 infants are exposed prenatally to tobacco smoke each year
- 210 cancers diagnosed in the past five years are smoking-related
- 255 adults have died in the past five years from smoking-related causes

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis and US Census Bureau, 2010 TIGERLine files.
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 – Matanuska-Susitna 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.
- Matanuska-Susitna Borough is a 2nd Class Borough, with three Cities (one Home Rule, one 1st Class and one 2nd Class), and several unincorporated communities and villages. For more information on Borough and Municipal government, see these sites: http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/links/government/ak_local.html and http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/LOGON/home.cfm.
- Matanuska-Susitna Borough has local taxes on tobacco products.
- No communities in the Matanuska-Susitna 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

*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.