Sitka Borough

Tobacco Use and Exposure – Sitka Borough

**Community Indicators for Sitka Borough**

- 86% of adults have a household ban on smoking (± 5%)
- 81% of adults agree that smoking should not be allowed in public indoor areas (± 6%)
- 75% of adults agree that smoking should not be allowed in restaurants (± 6%)
- 81% of those who work mostly indoors are protected by smokefree workplace policies (± 8%)
- 52% of smokers tried to quit in the past year (± 12%)
- 55% of current and former smokers started smoking regularly before age 18 (± 13%)

**People Affected in Sitka Borough**

2007 population: 8,640

Approximately:

- 1,280 adults smoke
- 290 adults use smokeless tobacco
- 920 adults are exposed to secondhand smoke in their homes
- 210 youth are exposed to secondhand smoke in their homes
- 15 infants are exposed prenatally* to tobacco smoke each year
- 30 cancers diagnosed in the past five years are smoking-related
- 45 adults have died in the past five years from smoking-related causes

*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.
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 – Sitka 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 Sitka is a Unified Home Rule Municipality. For more information on Borough and Municipal government, see these sites: http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/rlinks/government/ak_local.html and http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/LOGON/home.cfm
- The Borough of Sitka has local taxes on tobacco products.
- The Borough of Sitka 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

*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.