

SMOKING AMONG ADULTS

Did you know?

- Approximately 438,000 people die every year in the United States due to smoking, almost one-fifth of all deaths in the nation.
- According to the California Tobacco Survey, in 2005, 94.8% of California's indoor workers reported working in a smoke-free environment, compared to only 37.1% in 1990.
- Recent research has suggested that each dollar spent in the California Tobacco Control Program (CTCP) is associated with a 47-fold reduction in personal health care expenditure.
- Cigarette consumption in California during 2003-04 was 44.2 packs per capita compared to 90.8 packs per capita nationwide.
- From FY 1994 to FY2004, per capita consumption of cigarettes declined by 45% in California compared to 26% in the U.S.

Definition:

Adult smokers are those 18 years or older who have smoked at least 100 cigarettes in their lifetimes and who currently smoke.

Healthy People 2010 National Objectives:

Reduce cigarette smoking to a prevalence of no more than 12% among people aged 18 and over.

Shasta County Baseline:

- 22% of adults aged 18 and older were current smokers in 1996.

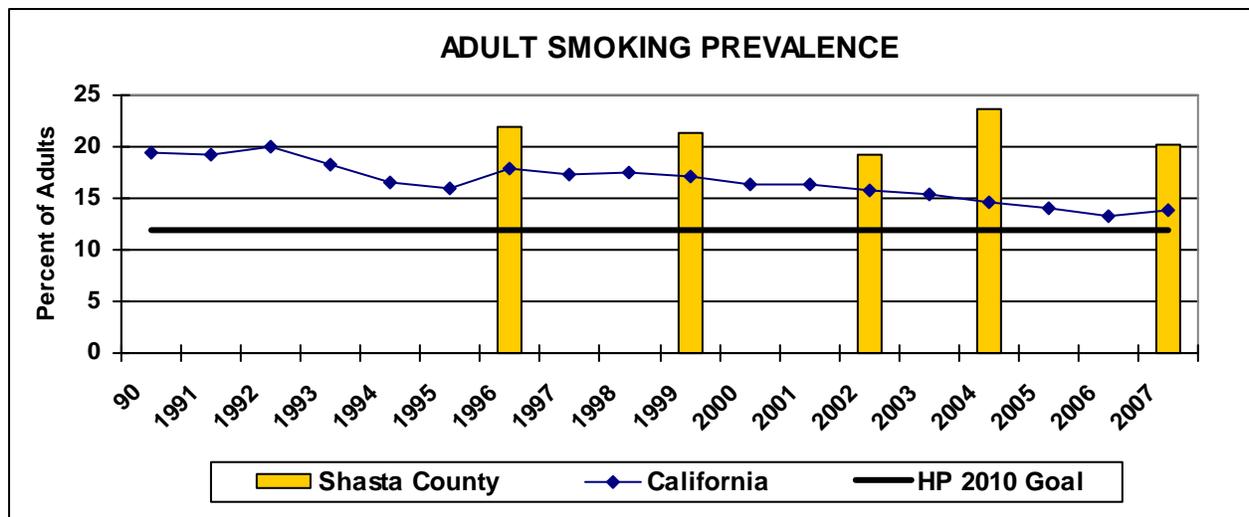
Percentage of Cigarette Smokers Among Adults Aged 18 and Older, Shasta County and California*		
Year	Shasta County	California
1996	22.0	17.8
1997	N/A	17.4
1998	N/A	17.5
1999	21.3	17.1
2000	N/A	16.3
2001	N/A	16.4
2002	19.2	15.8
2003	N/A	15.4
2004	23.6	14.6
2005	N/A	14.0
2006	N/A	13.3
2007	20.1	13.8

*Note: Data for Shasta County comes from the Mercy Medical Center Community Health Assessment while the data for California comes from Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) and California Adult Tobacco Survey data, combined making comparison of state and county data difficult.

SMOKING AMONG ADULTS (continued)

Key Points:

- The adult cigarette smoking prevalence in Shasta County did not change significantly between 1996 and 2007. The adult smoking prevalence in California has continued to decline since 1996. Neither met the HP 2010 goal of 12% or less.
- Based on local survey data, there is no statistically significant difference in smoking prevalence between adult men (20.7%) and adult women (19.4%) in Shasta County.
- Shasta County residents living below 200% of the federal poverty level are more than twice as likely to be current smokers as those living at or above 200% of the federal poverty level.
- In 2007, Shasta County residents aged 18-39 years had a smoking prevalence of 31.9% compared to 2.7% among residents aged 65 years and older.
- The California Department of Health Services Tobacco Control Section study calculated that in 1999, smoking costs each resident of Shasta County \$790 or an estimated \$129 million annually.



Note: Data for Shasta County comes from the Mercy Medical Center Community Health Assessment while the data for California comes from the California Adult Tobacco Survey and Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, making comparison of state and county data difficult.

SMOKING AMONG ADULTS (continued)

Primary Prevention Activities:

- Increase the cost of tobacco products.
- Since approximately 90% of adult smokers started smoking before age 18, prevention efforts should be focused at pre-teen and teen years.
- Increase media campaigns to report on adverse effects of tobacco use, including issues important to teens, and ways to decrease exposure to second-hand smoke.
- Provide alternative sponsorship for organizations dependent on funds from the tobacco industry.
- Decrease access to tobacco for minors from all sources, including from family and friends.

Secondary Prevention Activities:

- Encourage physicians to refer patients who smoke to cessation services.

Data Source: Mercy Medical Center Community Health Assessment; California Department of Health Services, Tobacco Control Section, "California Adult Tobacco Survey, 1993-2004" and "Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 1984-1992."