

The Purpose of this Document

Because CDC is the lead federal agency for comprehensive tobacco prevention and control, a key priority for the Office on Smoking and Health (OSH) is supporting states in their efforts to preserve tobacco control capacity and infrastructure in the face of decreased funding. OSH's National Tobacco Control Program (NTCP) seeks to reduce disease, disability, and death related to tobacco use by:

- Preventing the initiation of tobacco use among young people.
- Promoting quitting among young people and adults.
- Eliminating nonsmokers' exposure to secondhand smoke.
- Identifying and eliminating the disparities related to tobacco use and its effects among different population groups.

Through the coordinated efforts of the NTCP and the activities of the Sustaining States workgroup at CDC (officially known as the "Promoting Sustainable Science-Based Comprehensive State Tobacco Control Programs at CDC-Recommended Levels priority"), OSH provides technical assistance to state tobacco control programs and other partners to help maintain and increase support for essential tobacco control activities.

In response to the decreased funding of state tobacco control programs and partners, OSH has prepared the following information to help you emphasize the importance of tobacco control programs. This publication provides national and state-specific surveillance data as of 2004 around the four major goal areas of NTCP and a broad range of measures that reflect the health and associated economic impact of tobacco use. Data Highlights, 2006 also includes sample statements on how to interpret and cite these data for the public, press, and decision makers.

In addition to this publication, OSH also provides many other data resources to aid states and national partners in their tobacco control efforts. These resources include, but are not limited to:

- The State Tobacco Activities Tracking and Evaluation (STATE) System: an electronic data warehouse containing up-to-date and historical state-level data on tobacco use prevention and control (www.cdc.gov/tobacco/statesystem).
- Smoking-Attributable Mortality, Morbidity and Economic Costs (SAMMEC): an online application that allows you to estimate the health and health-related economic consequences of smoking to adults and infants (www.cdc.gov/tobacco/sammec).

Additional resources can also be found on the OSH website (www.cdc.gov/tobacco).