



Cost of Tobacco

- According to Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, “Annual health care expenditures solely from secondhand smoke exposure equal annually in the United States to \$5.2 billion dollars a year.” (www.tfk.org)
- The World Health Organization has found in studies conducted that tobacco and poverty are inextricably linked. In hand, many studies have shown that in the poorest households as much as 10% of total household expenditure is on tobacco. This means that these families have less money to spend on basic items such as food, education and health care. In addition to its direct health effects, tobacco leads to malnutrition, increased health care costs and premature death. (<http://www.who.int/en/>)
- The American Cancer Society reports that “employees who smoke have an average insured payment for health care of \$1,145, while nonsmoking employees average \$762.” (<http://www.no-smoke.org>)
- The Surgeon General in 2006 determined that if all U.S. workplaces implemented a 100% smoke-free policy, it would result in "1.3 million smokers quitting, 950 million fewer cigarette packs being smoked, 1,540 myocardial infarctions and 360 strokes being averted, and \$49 million in direct medical cost savings being realized all within one year." The costs saved would increase over time. (<http://www.no-smoke.org>)
- In a study of health care utilization by the American Cancer society contrived that in 20,831 employees of a single, large employer, employees who smoked had more hospital admissions per 1,000 (124 vs. 76), had a longer average length of stay (6.47 vs. 5.03 days), and made six more visits to health care facilities per year than nonsmoking employees. (<http://www.no-smoke.org>)
- The Society of Actuaries has determined that secondhand smoke costs the U.S. economy roughly \$10 billion a year; \$5 billion in estimated medical costs associated with secondhand smoke exposure and another \$4.6 billion in lost wages. (<http://www.no-smoke.org>)