

Tobacco Use in Rhode Island



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Currently, there are 172,800 adult smokers in Rhode Island. However, another 232,100 adults in Rhode Island have quit smoking.

Current Cigarette Smoking Among Adults Aged 18 and Older, 1992-1993

	Percent
All States	22.9
Rhode Island	23.0
Men	25.2
Women	21.0
White	23.2
Black	25.5
Hispanic	18.3
Women 18-44 yrs	25.3
< 12 yrs Education	23.6
12 yrs Education	25.4
> 12 yrs Education	18.4

Current Cigarette Smoking Among Adults by Age, 1992-1993

	Percent
18-24	29.6
25-44	25.6
45-64	24.7
65+	10.0

Past Month Cigarette Smoking Among Youth, Grades 9-12, 1993

		Percent
All States	Past Month Smokers	30.5
	Frequent Smokers	13.8
Rhode Island	Past Month Smokers	31.5*
	Frequent Smokers	14.8*
Boys-	Past Month Smokers	31.1*
	Frequent Smokers	15.8*
Girls-	Past Month Smokers	32.0*
	Frequent Smokers	13.8*

Note: Frequent smokers are individuals who smoked 20+ days in the past month.
*Regional estimate

Health Impact and Costs, 1990

Deaths Related to Smoking, 1990

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Rhode Island	1,881
Men	1,250
Women	631
Death Rate	350.3
per 100,000	

Years of Potential Life Lost, 1990*

Rhode Island	21,541
Men	14,006
Women	7,535

*calculated to life expectancy

Direct Medical Costs Related to Smoking, 1990

Rhode Island: \$186,000,000

Smokeless Tobacco Use

Current Smokeless Tobacco Use Among Adults Aged 18 and Older, 1992-1993

	Percent
All States	2.1
Rhode Island	0.2
Men	0.4
Women	0.1

Past Month Smokeless Tobacco Use Among Youth, Grades 9-12, 1993

	Percent
All States	11.5
Northeastern Region	8.5*
Boys	15.5*
Girls	1.2*

*Regional estimate

Tobacco Control Legislation, 1995

Minors' Access to Tobacco Products

Minimum age for sale: 18

Illegal for minors to purchase, possess, or use: Yes

Restrictions on Vending Machines: Vending machines in all locations except bars must be supervised and equipped with a locking device at all times. Vending machines located in bars must be supervised at all times.

Signage: Signs required on premises.

Licensure: Retail license and vending machine license required.

Penalties: Penalties to business owner, manager, or clerk. Revocation/suspension of license for violation.

Smokefree Indoor Air

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State government worksites: Designated smoking areas required or allowed (Penalties: To businesses)
Private worksites: Designated smoking areas required or allowed (Penalties: To businesses)
Restaurants: Designated smoking areas required or allowed (Penalties: To businesses and smokers)
Day care centers: No restrictions
Grocery stores: Designated smoking areas required or allowed (Penalties: To businesses and smokers)

Excise Tax

Cigarette tax per pack: 61 cents
Rank = 4 (No. 1 is highest tax)
Federal and state taxes as a percentage of retail price: 38.2%*
Annual net tax revenue from cigarettes: \$40,377,000*
Smokeless tobacco tax: 20% of wholesale sales price
*Based on previous tax rate of 56 cents/pack

Advertising: No restrictions

State Preempts Local Laws: No preemption

Tobacco Economy


Tobacco Agriculture, 1994:
None
Tobacco Manufacturing, 1992:
None

Tobacco Use Prevention and Control Program

Funding: NCI ASSIST
Regional Network: Tobacco-Free New England

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Office on Smoking and Health/National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion

 [State & National Data- List of States](#)

 [State & National Tobacco Control Highlights](#)

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