

State-Specific Smoking-Related Cancer Cases and Deaths, 2017



Tobacco use is responsible for 480,000 premature deaths and almost \$300 billion in health care costs and lost productivity each year. Cigarette smoking is responsible for about one-third of cancer deaths in the nation overall. But the burden of that cancer varies by state due to differences in tobacco control laws and systemic barriers to leading a tobacco-free life. Tobacco Nation states (AL, AR, IN, KY, LA, MI, MS, MO, OH, OK, TN, WV, SC), states with the highest smoking rates, had the highest proportion of smoking related cancer cases and deaths. In order to reduce tobacco-related cancer in the U.S., tobacco control strategies that help achieve health equity will need to be implemented.

Top 10 in Smoking-Related Cancer Deaths

As highlighted in the table below, of the top ten states with the greatest proportion of smoking-related cancer cases and deaths, all are Tobacco Nation states. Kentucky has the greatest proportion of smoking related cancer deaths with 34.6 percent of all cancer deaths caused by cigarette smoking which translates to 3,495 adults who have died.

NUMBER AND PROPORTION OF CANCER CASES AND DEATHS BY STATE IN 2017

STATE	SMOKING-RELATED CANCER CASES			SMOKING-RELATED CANCER DEATHS		
	NUMBER	% OF ALL CANCERS	RANK	NUMBER	% OF ALL CANCERS	RANK
Alabama	5,355	20.9	10	3,268	31.6	4
Alaska	546	19.8	19	251	27.5	26
Arizona	5,330	18.3	31	3,254	27.3	29
Arkansas	3,616	22.6	4	2,095	32.4	2
California	22,941	14.6	50	13,103	22.2	50
Colorado	3,439	15.7	49	1,775	22.8	49
Connecticut	3,676	18.3	31	1,663	25.3	41
Delaware	1,124	19.7	21	595	28.6	19
District of Columbia	389	16.1	47	243	23.8	47
Florida	23,005	20.4	14	13,015	29.0	17
Georgia	9,102	18.5	28	4,884	28.7	18
Hawaii	1,116	15.9	48	599	24.6	43
Idaho	1,297	16.6	45	706	23.5	48
Illinois	12,279	18.9	25	6,588	27.5	26
Indiana	7,301	22.4	6	4,158	31.0	7
Iowa	3,172	18.5	28	1,775	27.7	23
Kansas	2,592	18.0	35	1,513	27.7	23
Kentucky	6,266	24.2	1	3,495	34.6	1
Louisiana	4,910	20.2	15	2,879	30.4	9
Maine	1,895	22.4	6	1,016	30.1	11
Maryland	4,895	16.9	41	2,821	26.3	35

STATE	SMOKING-RELATED CANCER CASES			SMOKING-RELATED CANCER DEATHS		
	NUMBER	% OF ALL CANCERS	RANK	NUMBER	% OF ALL CANCERS	RANK
Massachusetts	6,272	19.6	22	3,526	27.4	28
Michigan	10,560	20.6	12	6,168	30.0	12
Minnesota	4,981	17.8	36	2,556	26.0	36
Mississippi	3,574	22.9	3	1,990	30.7	8
Missouri	6,853	22.0	8	4,036	31.3	6
Montana	1,031	17.6	37	551	25.9	39
Nebraska	1,554	16.8	43	906	26.0	36
Nevada	2,452	20.0	17	1,552	29.6	15
New Hampshire	1,517	18.8	26	778	28.3	20
New Jersey	8,039	16.4	46	3,975	24.6	43
New Mexico	1,429	16.6	44	860	24.0	46
New York	18,716	17.5	38	8,688	25.0	42
North Carolina	10,652	20.2	15	5,757	29.7	14
North Dakota	661	18.5	28	335	26.4	34
Ohio	13,048	20.8	11	7,644	30.0	12
Oklahoma	3,895	20.5	13	2,464	30.2	10
Oregon	3,572	18.3	31	2,139	26.6	33
Pennsylvania	14,886	19.8	19	7,834	27.7	23
Rhode Island	1,204	21.1	9	608	28.3	20
South Carolina	5,214	20.0	17	3,024	29.4	16
South Dakota	822	18.7	27	461	26.9	32
Tennessee	7,814	22.6	4	4,473	31.5	5
Texas	17,146	16.9	41	9,717	24.1	45
Utah	935	9.5	51	475	15.2	51
Vermont	677	19.3	23	387	27.1	30
Virginia	7,236	19.1	24	4,178	27.9	22
Washington	6,141	17.4	39	3,269	26.0	36
West Virginia	2,689	23.8	2	1,491	32.1	3
Wisconsin	5,682	18.3	31	3,041	27.0	31
Wyoming	460	17.4	39	242	25.6	40
Total	293,958			162,821	27.4	

Citation: Analysis by ACS, 2020.