

Tobacco Control in Mississippi

Policy

- [Smoke-free air](#): Prior to 2007, there were 6 municipalities with smoke-free ordinances, protecting 3% of the Mississippi population. There are now 190 smoke-free municipalities, protecting 37% of the Mississippi population.
- [\\$.50 increase in state cigarette tax](#): Mississippi raised the state cigarette tax from \$.18 to \$.68 on May 15, 2009. Following this tax increase, cigarette consumption decreased by more than 50% and tax revenue increased by 88%.

Tobacco Use Trends

- [Per capita cigarette consumption](#) in Mississippi decreased from 93.6 packs in 2008 to 46.3 packs in 2023.
- According to CDC BRFSS data, the [prevalence](#) of current cigarette smoking among Mississippi adults decreased from 22.9% in 2010 to 15.6% in 2023.¹
- The [prevalence](#) of past 30-day cigarette smoking among high school students decreased from 20.2% in 2008 to 3.4% in 2023. The prevalence among middle school students decreased from 8.9% to 1.7%. (Mississippi Youth Tobacco Survey)
- The [prevalence](#) of past 30-day smokeless tobacco use among high school students decreased from 13.8% in 2008 to 2.5% in 2023. The prevalence among middle school students decreased from 7.2% to 2.7%. (Mississippi Youth Tobacco Survey)
- The [prevalence](#) of past 30-day cigar smoking among high school students decreased from 16.3% in 2008 to 5.2% in 2023. The prevalence among middle school students decreased from 9.3% to 2.8%. (Mississippi Youth Tobacco Survey)
- However, past 30-day use of [e-cigarettes](#) increased in 2014 and again in 2018. In 2023, 15.7% of high school students and 6.4% of middle school students reported past 30-day use. (Mississippi Youth Tobacco Survey)

Health Impacts

- The lung cancer mortality rate has decreased from 65.14 in 2008 to 45.00 in 2021.
- [Findings](#) from controlled observational studies demonstrate that hospital admissions for heart attacks in both Starkville and Hattiesburg decreased substantially following the implementation of their smoke-free ordinances. Moreover, the observed decrease in these communities was much higher than that observed in control communities that did not have a smoke-free ordinance in place.
- The Mississippi Inpatient Outpatient Data System provided admission data. [Admission rates](#) for tobacco smoke related events were compared using ANCOVAs, adjusting for county demographics. Admission rates for events not associated with tobacco smoke were also compared. Admission rates for tobacco smoke related events were lower in counties with smoke-free seats (152.5) than those without smoke-free seats (173.7), $p < .05$. There were no differences in admission rates for events not associated with tobacco smoke (18.0 vs 16.4, ns)

¹ Comparable data are not available for years prior to 2010.

.Published Research

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