

SECONDHAND SMOKE IN CALIFORNIA

California Department of Public Health
California Tobacco Control Program
cdph.ca.gov/programs/Tobacco

Secondhand smoke (SHS) is a mixture of over 4,000 chemicals which contaminates indoor and outdoor air. Many chemicals in SHS are classified as toxic and cause adverse health effects. There has been significant progress to reduce SHS exposure in California while the California Tobacco Control Program (CTCP) has continued to monitor knowledge, attitudes, behaviors and reported exposure regarding SHS.

Protection from SHS

- Smoke-free workplaces: In 1995, the California Smoke-Free Workplace Law banned smoking in most indoor workplaces, including restaurants and clubs. Smoking bans in bars went into effect in 1998.¹
- Smoke-free doorways: In January 2004, a law prohibiting smoking within 20 feet of main

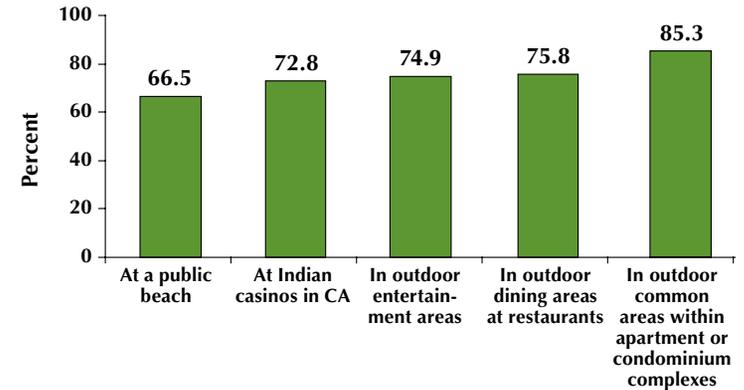
entrances, exits, and operable windows of all public buildings went into effect.²

- Smoke-free beaches: As of January 2008, there were 26 smoke-free beaches on the California coast.³
- Smoke-free parks and gardens: There were 103 cities and counties in California with smoke-free park laws in 2008.⁴
- Smoke-free cars with children: In January 2008, a law prohibiting smoking in a moving or parked vehicle with any youth under 18 years of age went into effect.⁵

Attitudes about SHS exposures

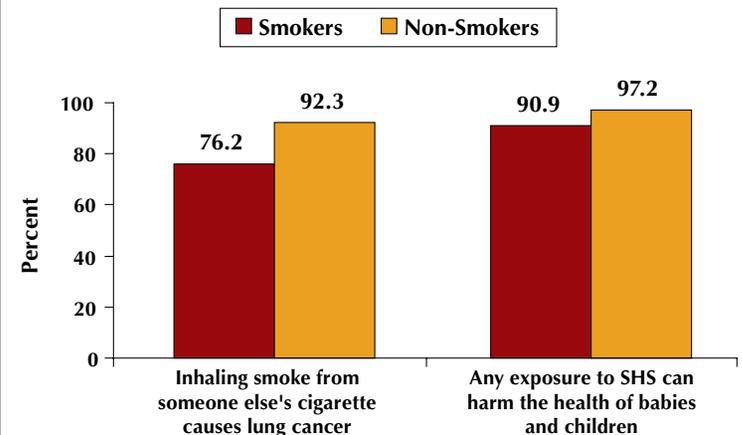
- 75.8% of Californians agree that smoking should be prohibited in outdoor dining areas at restaurants.
- 77.0% of Californians agree that apartment complexes should require half their rental units to be smoke-free.
- 85.3% of Californians agree that smoking should not be allowed in outdoor common areas in apartment or condominium complexes, such as pools, common area patios, and walkways.
- 66.5% of Californians agree that smoking should not be allowed at a public beach.
- 74.9% of Californians agree that smoking should not be allowed in outdoor entertainment areas, such as amusement parks, zoos, and fairgrounds.
- 72.8% of Californians agree that Indian casinos in California should be smoke-free.

Percent of Californians Who Agree that the Locations Should be Smoke-Free, 2007



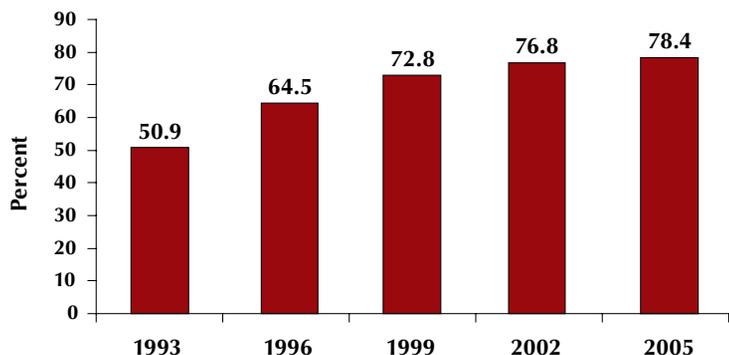
Source: California Adult Tobacco Survey, 2007. Prepared by: California Department of Public Health, California Tobacco Control Program, March 2008.

Percent of Smokers and Nonsmokers Who Strongly Agree SHS is Harmful to Health, 2007



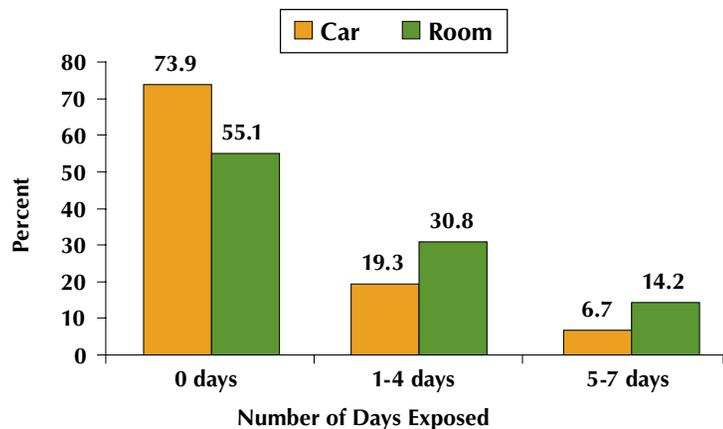
Source: California Adult Tobacco Survey, 2007. Prepared by: California Department of Public Health, California Tobacco Control Program, March 2008.

Trend in a Reported Smoke-free Home Between 1993 and 2005



Source: California Tobacco Survey, 2005. Prepared by: California Department of Public Health, California Tobacco Control Program, March 2008.

Percent of California Youth who are Exposed to Secondhand Smoke in the Past 7 Days, 2006



Source: California Student Tobacco Survey, 2006. Prepared by: California Department of Public Health, California Tobacco Control Program, March 2008.

Beliefs about SHS and Health

- 76.2% of smokers, compared to 92.3% of nonsmokers, believe that inhaling smoke from someone else's cigarette causes lung cancer.
- 90.9% of smokers compared to 97.2% of nonsmokers believe that any exposure to SHS can harm the health of babies and children.

SHS Exposure

- In 2005, 78.4% of Californians reported having a smoke-free home, which is an increase of 54% since 1993 (50.9%).
- In 2005, 94.8% of Californians reported a complete smoking ban in their workplace.
- In 2006, 55.1% of youths said they were not exposed to SHS by being in the same room with someone who was smoking during the previous 7 days.
- In 2006, 73.9% of youths said they were not exposed to SHS in a car during the previous 7 days.

About the Surveys

The California Adult Tobacco Survey (CATS) (1993-2007) is a random-digit-dial telephone survey of approximately 6,200 adults conducted annually by the Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) Unit of the Cancer Surveillance Section of California Department of Public Health (CDPH). Data has been weighted to the 2000 California population using gender, four (4) race groups and two (2) age groups.

The California Tobacco Survey (CTS) (1990, 1992, 1993, 1996, 1999, 2002, and 2005), funded by the California Tobacco Control Program (CTCP) of the CDPH, was conducted

by the Cancer Prevention and Control program of the University of California, San Diego. The California Tobacco Survey is a very large telephone survey that includes a screener survey, an adult extended survey, and a youth survey. Data has been weighted to the 2005 Current Population Survey California population.

The California Student Tobacco Survey (CSTS) (2002-2006) is a large, in-school student survey of tobacco use. Data was collected for both middle (grades 6-8) and high school (grades 9-12) students. The sampling strategy includes stratification by 12 regions in California. The CSTS is weighted to the 2005 population of California in-school youth, by gender, grade level, and race/ethnicity.

References

1. California State Labor Code 6404.5.
2. Government Code 7596-7598, 19994.30 and 19994.33. Includes all codes that were addressed in AB 846. Government Code 7597 specifically addresses the 20' feet distance provision and states that colleges, universities and local governments are not preempted from passing their own policies that expand the distance.
3. Municipalities with Smoke-free Beach Laws, Americans for Nonsmokers' Rights (ANR) Foundation Database, January 2008, <http://www.no-smoke.org/pdf/SmokefreeBeaches.pdf>.
4. California Secondhand Smoke Policy Database, California's Clean Air Project (CCAP), June 2008, <http://www.ccap.etr.org/>.
5. California Health and Safety Code Sections 118947-118949, California Vehicle Code Section 12814.6.

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