Health Behaviors

Current cigarette smoking among adults and youth

Cigarette smoking is the most common cause of preventable death and disease in Oregon. It kills more than 7,000 Oregonians annually, and costs the state $2.5 billion in health care costs and lost productivity due to premature death.

In 2012, 18.5% of Oregon adults smoked cigarettes, compared with 23.7% in 1996.

**FIGURE 1**

**Adults who smoke cigarettes, Oregon, 1996–2012**

- Percent of adults (age-adjusted)

Source: Oregon Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)

Starting in 2010, estimates are not comparable to earlier years.
Among Oregon eighth-graders, smoking has dropped significantly since 1996, from a high of 23.0% in 1997, to a low of 4.3% in 2013.

![8th-graders who smoke cigarettes, Oregon, 1996–2013](image)

While Oregon has experienced notable successes in tobacco control, smoking remains a major public health problem.

**Additional Resources:** [Oregon Tobacco Facts 2013](#)

**About the Data:** Data sources are the Oregon Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Systems (BRFSS) for adults and the Oregon Healthy Teens Survey (OHT), the Student Wellness Survey and the Student Drug Use Survey for youth. BRFSS is a telephone survey conducted annually among non-institutionalized adults age 18+. Since 2010, the Oregon BRFSS data have included cell phone respondents as well as those reached by landline, and data weighting methods have changed. Therefore, caution should be used in interpreting changes over time. Data on adults include those who have smoked 100 cigarettes in their lifetime and currently smoke every day or some days. For 8th graders, data include those who smoked cigarettes on more than 1 day during the past 30 days.

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