



Arizona Adults Smoking Less

Evidence suggest that Arizona are smoking less. The percentage of current smokers reporting smoking ever day has declined as have the average number of cigarettes they report smoking per day.

Data collected from the Arizona Adult tobacco Survey indicates the average number of self-reported packs smoked per month has decreased significantly, 22.5 packs per individual (2002) down from 30 packs per individual in 1996 & 1999.

INTRODUCTION

Does taxation decrease consumption?

Simply put the answer is yes. As prices increase people consume less of a product.

Numerous studies demonstrate that a 10% increase in real price (i.e. via taxes) will decrease smoking by roughly 4% and will decrease teen consumption by even more

Arizona instituted a tobacco excise tax, 40 cents in 1994 and 60 cents in 2002

Publicly, the tobacco industry decries excise tax increases as

ineffective. Privately, in their own documents, the industry admits exactly the opposite — that kids are especially sensitive to price.

STUDY SUPPORT

<http://www.nber.org/papers>
Chaloupka, Frank J. and Warner, Kenneth E. (1999) *The Economics of Smoking*, NBER working paper, No.w7047, Cambridge, MA, National Bureau of Economic Research.

Researchers found that low-income individuals and minorities are more likely than other smokers to be motivated to quit smoking in response to price increases in cigarettes.

http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/research_data/spec_pop/mmwr798.pdf.

A [study](http://www.ajph.org/cgi/content/abstract/91/11/1851) from Ringel and Evans <http://www.ajph.org/cgi/content/abstract/91/11/1851> found that for every 10 percent increase in price, smoking participation rates among pregnant women fell by 7 percent.

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