

## Economic Costs of Smoking & Secondhand Smoke

- In the U.S., an estimated \$96 billion are spent on medical care for smokers and former smokers suffering from diseases *caused by smoking*.<sup>1</sup> These reflect costs over and above those that would be expected to occur among adults who never smoked. In Virginia, medical care costs for smokers and former smokers are \$2.08 billion each year.<sup>2</sup>
- In the U.S., smoking costs \$97 billion each year in lost productivity (lost wages, lost household services). In Virginia, the costs of lost productivity due to smoking are estimated to be \$2.53 billion per year.<sup>3</sup>
- At least \$1.4 to \$4.0 billion is spent annually in medical care costs for health and developmental problems among infants and children caused by mothers' smoking (or exposure to secondhand smoke) during pregnancy or exposure to parents' smoking after birth.<sup>4</sup>
- In the U.S., \$4.98 billion are spent each year on medical care for non-smokers suffering from lung cancer or heart disease *caused by exposure to secondhand smoke*. An additional \$4.68 billion are spent on lost wages and services.<sup>5</sup>
- In Virginia, an estimated \$105.3 million are spent annually to treat illnesses associated with secondhand smoke.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Smoking-Attributable Morbidity, Mortality, and Economic Costs (SAMMEC; <http://apps.nccd.cdc.gov/sammecc/>); reported on 1/27/2010. Estimates are based on average annual healthcare expenditure data from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) during 2001-2004 and are adjusted to 2004 dollars. Estimates do not include costs associated with secondhand smoke exposure among children, youth and non-smoking adults and costs associated with use of smokeless tobacco and other products (pipes, cigars).

<sup>2</sup> Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids (CTFK; <http://www.tobaccofreekids.org>), "The Toll of Tobacco in Virginia", September 21, 2009. Original state estimates obtained from the CDC SAMMEC.

<sup>3</sup> CDC, SAMMEC. Figures based on the 2004 state smoking prevalence rate and 2004 state number of deaths along with 2001 national present value of future earnings (PVFE) and national relative risk estimates from 1982-1988. Does not include premature deaths due to burns or secondhand smoke.

<sup>4</sup> Adams, EK & CL Melvin, "[Costs of Maternal Conditions Attributable to Smoking During Pregnancy](#)", *American Journal of Preventive Medicine* 15(3):212-9, October 1998; CDC, "[Medical Care Expenditures Attributable to Cigarette Smoking During Pregnancy - United States, 1995](#)", *MMWR* 46(44), November 7, 1997; Aligne, CA & JJ Stoddard, "[Tobacco and Children: An Economic Evaluation of the Medical Effects of Parental Smoking](#)," *Archives of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine*, 151(7):648-653, July 1997; Stoddard, JJ & B Gray, "[Maternal Smoking and Medical Expenditures for Childhood Respiratory Illness](#)," *American Journal of Public Health* 87(2): 205-9, February 1997.

<sup>5</sup> Behan DF et al., [Economic Effects of Environmental Tobacco Smoke](#), Society of Actuaries, March 31, 2005. These reflect costs over and above those that would be expected to occur among non-smokers never exposed to secondhand smoke.

<sup>6</sup> Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids, "The Toll of Tobacco in Virginia", September 21, 2009; see Behan et al. report (nationwide costs allocated per state based on its share of all U.S. smokers).