

## **Smoking:**

- The prevalence of current smokers has gradually decline from 20.9% in 2005 to 15.5% in 2016.<sup>1</sup>
- An estimated 37.8 million adults in the United States currently smoke cigarettes
- In the United States, smoking claims more than 480,000 lives per year, making it the leading cause of preventable death.<sup>1</sup>

## **A more detailed look: smoking by sex, race, and age...**

- Overall, males are more likely partake in smoking than women.<sup>1</sup>
- Regardless of race or gender, adults aged 45-64 years have the highest percentage of current smokers (18.0%) when compared to all other age groups.<sup>1</sup>
- 31.8% of white adults are current smokers compared with 16.5% of black adults and only 9% of Asian adults.<sup>1</sup>

## **Is education indicative of smoking?**

- In 2016, of all adults, regardless of race or gender, those with a GED reported the highest rates of current smoking (40.6%), while those with a Bachelor's degree or postgraduate degrees reported the lowest percentages (7.7% and 4.5%).<sup>1</sup>
- Adults with no high school diploma or GED reported the second highest percentage of current smokers (24.1%).<sup>1</sup>

## **Is smoking really the cool thing for teenagers to do?**

- In 2017, 7.6% of all high school students were considered current smokers.
- The prevalence of current cigarette use for high school students was higher among males than among females.<sup>2</sup>
- Prevalence of smoking among high school students in America appears to increase from 9<sup>th</sup> grade through 12<sup>th</sup> grade.<sup>2</sup>
- In 2014, 73% of high school students and 56% of middle students who used tobacco products in the past reported using a flavored tobacco product.<sup>2</sup>

## **The cost of smoking...**

- Worldwide, tobacco use causes more than 6 million deaths per year, and current trends show that tobacco use will cause more than 8 million deaths annually by 2030.<sup>3</sup>
- On average, smokers die 10 years earlier than nonsmokers.<sup>3</sup>
- The tobacco industry spent \$9.5 billion in 2016 on cigarette advertising and promotions. This amounts to nearly \$26 million spent every day.<sup>3</sup>
- Tobacco use costs the United States more than \$300 billion per year:<sup>3</sup>
  - o Nearly \$170 billion is spent in direct medical care for adults.
  - o More than \$156 billion of lost productivity each year from exposure to secondhand smoke and premature death

<sup>1</sup>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Current Cigarette Smoking Among Adults in the United States: 2018*. Available at:

[http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/data\\_statistics/fact\\_sheets/adult\\_data/cig\\_smoking/index.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/data_statistics/fact_sheets/adult_data/cig_smoking/index.htm)

<sup>2</sup>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Youth and Tobacco Use*. 2018. Available at: [https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/data\\_statistics/fact\\_sheets/youth\\_data/tobacco\\_use/index.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/data_statistics/fact_sheets/youth_data/tobacco_use/index.htm)

<sup>3</sup>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Fast Facts*. 2018. Smoking and Tobacco Use. Available at: [http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/data\\_statistics/fact\\_sheets/fast\\_facts/index.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/data_statistics/fact_sheets/fast_facts/index.htm)