

Best Practices

South Carolina

2007

for Comprehensive
Tobacco Control
Programs

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the recommended level of investment for tobacco prevention and control in South Carolina is **\$62.2 million per year, or \$14.39 per capita.**

Tobacco use is the single most preventable cause of death and disease in the United States.

- Half of all long-term smokers die prematurely from smoking-related causes.

In South Carolina, an estimated 5,900 adults are projected to die each year from smoking.

- For each person who dies, another 20 people are suffering with at least one serious tobacco-related illness.
- If current smoking rates among people younger than age 18 continue, an estimated 103,000 of these South Carolina youth are projected to die from smoking.

The economic impact of tobacco use is equally staggering.

- South Carolina spends approximately \$1,095 million each year in smoking-attributable medical expenses, including an estimated \$393 million on smoking-attributable Medicaid medical costs.
- South Carolina also loses an estimated \$1,835 million each year in lost productivity from an experienced workforce that dies prematurely. Additional costs occur each year in medical treatment and lost productivity as a result of exposure to secondhand smoke.

The more states spend on comprehensive tobacco control programs, the greater the reductions in smoking—and the longer states invest in such programs, the greater and faster the impact.

- Evidence-based statewide tobacco control programs that are comprehensive, sustained, and accountable have been shown to reduce the number of tobacco-related deaths and disease.



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion
Office on Smoking and Health

for Comprehensive Tobacco Control Programs

In fiscal year 2006, South Carolina earned \$32.4 million in revenue from the sale of tobacco products, and was eligible to receive \$68.6 million from their legal settlement with the tobacco industry. Of the \$101.0 million South Carolina receives in revenue from their tobacco excise taxes and settlement, 62% would fund South Carolina's tobacco prevention and control program at the level of investment recommended by the CDC.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the recommended level of investment for tobacco prevention and control in South Carolina is **\$62.2 million per year**, or **\$14.39 per capita**.

I. State and Community Interventions

CDC recommends that South Carolina invest \$4.74 per capita annually in state and community interventions because multiple societal resources working together will have the greatest long-term population impact.

II. Health Communication Interventions

CDC recommends that South Carolina invest \$3.90 per capita annually in health communications because media interventions work to prevent tobacco use initiation, promote cessation, and shape social norms.

III. Cessation Interventions

CDC recommends that South Carolina invest \$3.87 per capita annually in tobacco cessation. Tobacco use treatment is an effective and highly cost-effective intervention.

IV. Surveillance and Evaluation

CDC recommends that South Carolina invest \$1.25, or 10% of tobacco control program costs, per capita annually in state surveillance and program evaluation because publicly financed programs should be accountable and demonstrate effectiveness.

V. Administration and Management

CDC recommends that South Carolina invest \$0.63, or 5% of tobacco control program costs, per capita annually in administration and management because complex, integrated programs require experienced staff to provide fiscal management, accountability, and coordination.