

# 2007 Georgia Data Summary: TOBACCO USE



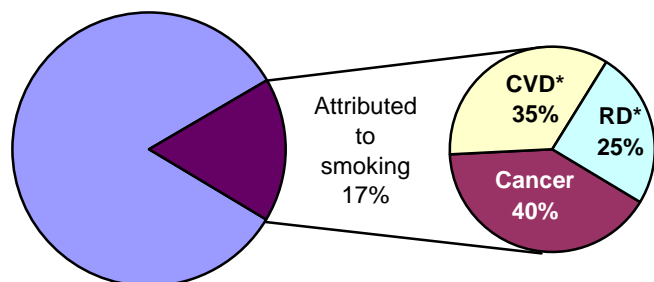
**Tobacco use costs Georgia an estimated \$5 billion every year.**

## The burden of tobacco-related illness among adults in Georgia is high.

### DEATHS

- Over **10,000** Georgians die every year from smoking-related illnesses – that is one out of every six adult Georgians who die.
- More adult males (**6,700**) than adult females (**3,900**) die from smoking-related illnesses.
- Cancer accounts for **40%** of all adult deaths due to smoking, while cardiovascular diseases and respiratory diseases account for **35%** and **25%** of all adult deaths due to smoking, respectively.
- Adult smokers lose an average of 16 years of life compared to adult non-smokers.

Average annual number of deaths among adults ages 35 and older, Georgia, 2000-2005



Total adult deaths = 61,612

Adult deaths attributed to smoking = 10,681

\*CVD = Cardiovascular Diseases; RD= Respiratory Diseases

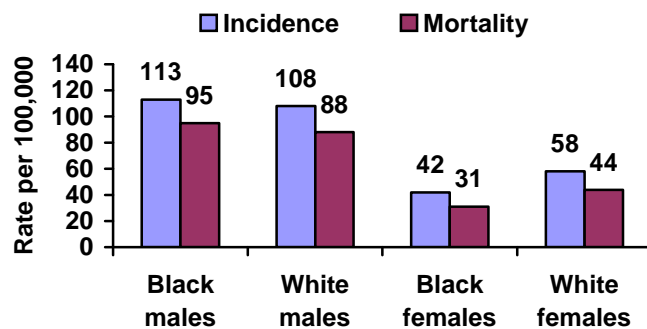
### LUNG CANCER MORTALITY

- Lung cancer accounts for **79%** of all smoking-related cancer deaths in Georgia.
- Lung cancer is the principal cause of cancer deaths for males and females.

### BEHAVIORS: YOUTH

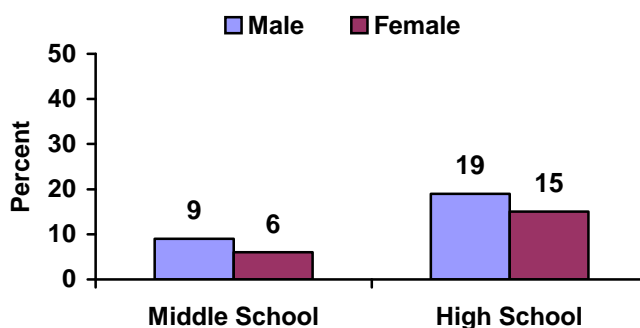
- Approximately **25,000 (7%)** middle school students and **73,000 (17%)** high school students in Georgia smoke cigarettes.
  - Among middle school students, **nine in 100** boys and **six in 100** girls are smokers.
  - Among high school students, **one in five** boys and nearly **one in six** girls are smokers.
- Approximately **18,000 (70%)** middle school smokers and **41,000 (56%)** high school smokers live with a smoker.
- Approximately **97,000 (29%)** middle school non-smokers and **110,000 (31%)** high school non-smokers live with a smoker.
- Approximately **9,000 (36%)** middle school smokers and **53,000 (73%)** high school smokers buy their cigarettes at gas stations or convenience stores.

Average annual lung cancer incidence and mortality rates\* by race and sex, Georgia, 2000-2004



\*Rates are age-adjusted to the 2000 US standard population

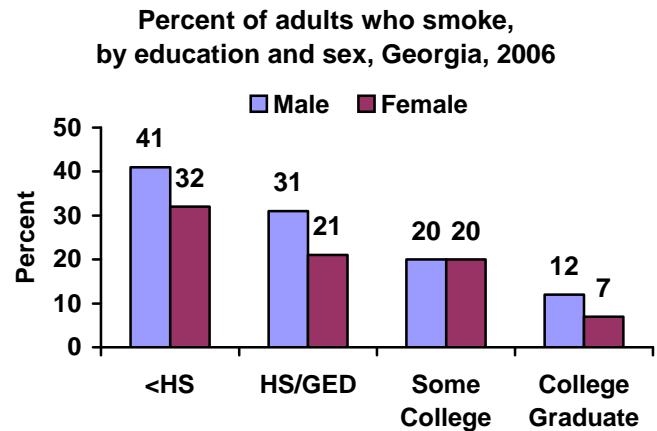
Percent of cigarette smokers by school type and sex, Georgia, 2005



Youth cigarette smokers are defined as those who have smoked at least one cigarette in the last 30 days.

## BEHAVIORS: ADULTS

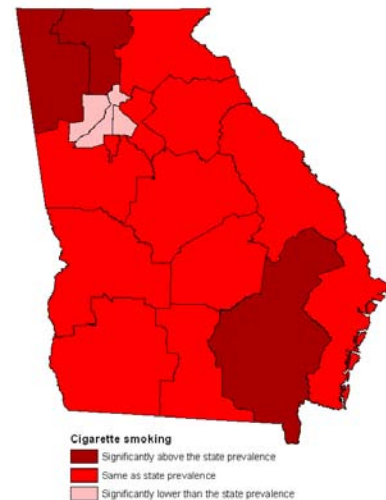
- Approximately **1.3 million (20%)** adults in Georgia smoke cigarettes.
  - 22%** of adult males and **18%** of adult females are smokers.
  - Adults with less than a high school education are more likely than adults with a high school education or above to smoke cigarettes.
- Rural counties in the northwest and southeast regions of the state have the highest adult smoking prevalence.



## POLICY

- A majority (**81%**) of adult Georgians do not allow smoking anywhere inside their homes.
  - Adults with at least a high school education are more likely than adults who did not graduate high school to not allow smoking inside their homes.
- A majority (**85%**) of working adults indicate their worksite does not allow smoking at work.
- Almost all (**99%**) public schools in Georgia have policies prohibiting tobacco use.

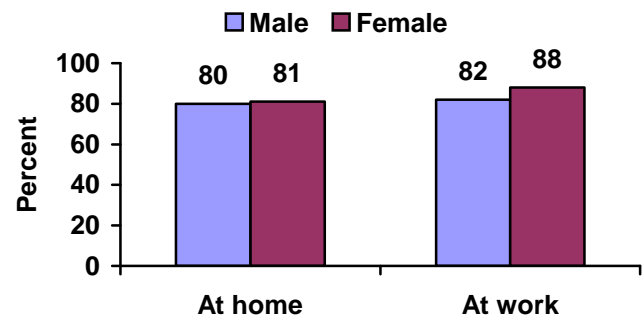
Percent of adults who smoke cigarettes by Health District, Georgia, 2000-2005



## FINANCIAL IMPACT

- \$1.8 billion** in healthcare costs among adults 18 years and older.
- \$3.3 billion** in lost productivity costs among adults 35 years and older.

Percent of adults who indicate having a policy that does not allow smoking, by location and sex, Georgia, 2006



Adult cigarette smokers are defined as those who have smoked at least 100 cigarettes in their lifetime and are currently smoking.

### Data sources:

- 2006 Georgia Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) (<http://health.state.ga.us/epi/brfss/publications.asp>).
- 2006 Georgia Student Health Education Profile Survey (<http://health.state.ga.us/epi/cdiee/policy.asp>).
- 2005 Georgia Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) (<http://health.state.ga.us/epi/cdiee/studenthealth.asp>).
- 2005 Georgia Youth Tobacco Survey (<http://health.state.ga.us/epi/cdiee/tobaccouse.asp>).
- Georgia Vital Statistics, 2005; CDC SAMMEC web application (<http://apps.nccd.cdc.gov/sammec/>).
- Georgia Comprehensive Cancer Registry.

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Visit <http://www.health.state.ga.us/epi/cdiee/tobaccouse.asp> for more information about tobacco use in Georgia.

Visit <http://health.state.ga.us/programs/tobacco/index.asp> for more information about the Georgia Tobacco Use Prevention Program.