

SUMMIT COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

Population Health Brief: Impact of "T21" Legislation in Akron



Summit County Public Health Population Health Division
1867 W. Market St., Akron, Ohio 44313 (330) 923-4891
www.scph.org

Youth Tobacco Use and Estimated Impact of Proposed Legislation

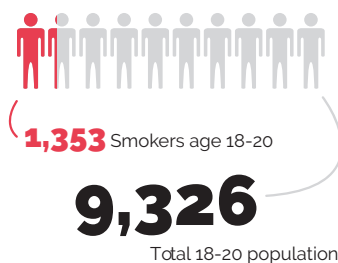
Tobacco use by youth under age 18 is a serious problem in Summit County and throughout the nation. Those who begin using tobacco products at an early age run a significant risk of being a life-long tobacco user. The intent of the proposed "T21" legislation is to help prevent those under age 18 from beginning tobacco use by making it harder to get. Statistics from Summit County's 2013 Youth Risk Behavior Survey make it clear that intervention is necessary:

- **Providing tobacco to minors is both illegal and very easy to do** -- More than one-third (37%) of high school students and 16% of middle school students who smoked said they could purchase the tobacco they used at a store, public event, or a restaurant, bar, or club. Another 25% say they were able to give money to someone else to buy tobacco for them. Direct sales of tobacco to minors is illegal, yet more than half of minors using tobacco are able to get it without much difficulty.
- **Smoking rises with age** -- The percent of middle and high school students who say they smoke rises with each grade level, from just 3% of 7th graders to nearly 20% of 12th graders.

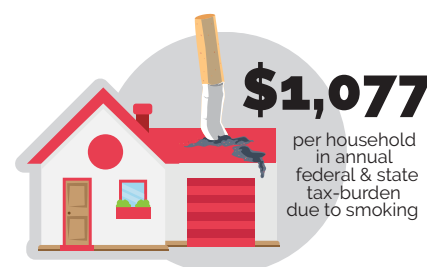
Much speculation has been made of the potential economic impact of prohibiting Akron residents age 18-21 from legally purchasing tobacco products. However, an analysis of that impact shows that for the 215 tobacco retailers currently doing business in Akron the impact will be modest, especially in comparison to the significant societal cost imposed by smoking.

- **Limiting tobacco sales to 21 and over will impact a small number of Akron residents** -- According to the 2016 American Community Survey, there are an estimated 9,326 Akron residents age 18-20. Of those 9,326 residents, an estimated 15% smoked at least 1 cigarette in the previous 30 days; a total of just 1,353 people.
- **Cigarette retailers receive only about half of cigarette sales revenue** -- Only about half of the cost of a pack of cigarettes (assumed to be just over \$6.00 per pack) can be considered revenue for the retailers who sell them. Nearly \$3.00 of the \$6.00 price per pack is due to federal and state excise taxes, and state and local sales taxes.
- **Total estimated revenues from selling cigarettes to those age 18-20 is modest** -- After subtracting taxes, the total estimated revenue generated by all 18-20 year olds who smoke in Akron is about 23,124 per month. Assuming that revenue is divided up evenly among each of the 215 tobacco retailers in Akron, the total comes out to about \$108 monthly; a little over \$3.59 per day per retailer.
- **The financial burden of smoking is costly to everyone** -- According to the CDC, the annual state and federal tax burden on each Ohio household from smoking-caused government expenditures is \$1,077. Smoking costs Ohio \$5.64 billion in annual health care costs, \$1.72 billion in annual Medicaid costs, and \$5.88 billion in productivity losses.

People in Akron Age 18-20 Who Smoke



Cost of One Pack Of Cigarettes



Estimated Impact of Prohibiting Cigarette Sales to Akron Residents Age 18-20

2013 estimated amount smoked in the last 30 days:	Smoking Prevalence		Per Month Totals, City of Akron Population Age 18-20						
	2016 Estimated Akron Population Age 18-20	% in each smoking category	Estimated number of cigarettes smoked	Estimated number of cigarette packs smoked	Gross estimated revenue generated by smoking	Cost per pack of cigarettes in Ohio	Federal and state sales and excise taxes per pack	Net revenue per pack less taxes	Net estimated revenue generated by smoking
Didn't smoke	7,973	85.5%	-	-	\$0	\$6.10	\$2.98	\$3.12	\$0
Less than 1 per day	333	3.6%	4,993	250	\$1,523	\$6.10	\$2.98	\$3.12	\$779
1 per day	264	2.8%	7,909	395	\$2,412	\$6.10	\$2.98	\$3.12	\$1,234
2-5 per day	496	5.3%	52,116	2,606	\$15,895	\$6.10	\$2.98	\$3.12	\$8,130
6-10 per day	150	1.6%	36,055	1,803	\$10,997	\$6.10	\$2.98	\$3.12	\$5,625
11-20 per day	66	0.7%	20,645	1,032	\$6,297	\$6.10	\$2.98	\$3.12	\$3,221
More than 20 per day	44	0.5%	26,511	1,326	\$8,086	\$6.10	\$2.98	\$3.12	\$4,136
Akron Total	9,326	100.0%	148,230	7,411	\$45,210	\$6.10	\$2.98	\$3.12	\$23,124

2013 estimated amount smoked in the last 30 days:	Annual Totals, City of Akron Population Age 18-20		
	Net estimated revenue from cigarette sales	Number of tobacco retailers in Akron	Estimated annual total revenue per retailer
Didn't smoke	\$0	215	\$0
Less than 1 per day	\$9,347	215	\$43
1 per day	\$14,806	215	\$69
2-5 per day	\$97,562	215	\$454
6-10 per day	\$67,495	215	\$314
11-20 per day	\$38,648	215	\$180
More than 20 per day	\$49,629	215	\$231
Akron Total	\$277,486	215	\$1,291

Assumptions:

- 18-20 year olds' smoking patterns are similar to their high school counterparts; estimated smoking rates by age group came from the Ohio Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey
- The average cost per pack Ohio is \$6.10
- Each pack contains 20 cigarettes
- Where ranges of cigarettes smoked per month are shown, the midpoint of each range is used to calculate the number smoked
- State taxes of \$1.97 and federal taxes of \$1.01 per pack; taxes make up \$2.98 of total cost
- Assumes all 18-20 year olds can currently purchase legally from a store
- Assumes all revenue is equally distributed among the 215 retailers

Ways tobacco products were usually obtained by those who used them during the last 30 days, 2013

By Location:	Middle School	High School
East Akron	5.8%	11.9%
West Akron	4.8%	12.1%
North Suburbs	1.9%	11.1%
South Suburbs	6.7%	19.1%
Summit County	4.2%	13.5%

By Grade:	
7th	3.0%
8th	5.3%
9th	9.2%
10th	11.0%
11th	14.8%
12th	19.5%

By Location:	Middle School	High School
Gave someone money to buy it for me	24.6%	25.0%
Bought it at a public event	2.3%	1.6%
Bought it at a restaurant, bar, or club	3.1%	2.2%
Bought it at a store	10.7%	33.1%
Someone gave it to me	27.8%	23.2%
Took it from a store or family member	18.2%	4.3%
Got it some other way	13.2%	10.5%