This fact sheet provides a snapshot of tobacco use (cigarettes and electronic nicotine products). This information can help local public health and community workers identify gaps and implement relevant strategies to address problems related tobacco use.

**Tobacco Laws**

**Tobacco Taxes**

South Carolina is ranked 44th in the U.S for its cigarette tax of 57 cents per pack compared to national average of $1.73. All other tobacco products are taxed at 5% of the manufacturer’s price.

**Youth Access**

The minimum age of sale for tobacco products is 18 years old. Minors are prohibited from buying alternative nicotine products, including electronic nicotine devices.

**Quick Stats**

Currently **103,000** adolescents across SC are estimated to die prematurely from smoking.

Every year, over **7,000** South Carolinians die from smoking.

In fiscal year 2018, South Carolina received and allocated **$5 million** in state funds to tobacco prevention programs.

Source: Tobacofreekids.org
Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids

**Youth Lifetime Use of Electronic Products (%)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Nation</th>
<th>SC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>44.9</td>
<td>42.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>42.9</td>
<td>40.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2015 & 2017 YRBSS

**Strategies for Tobacco Prevention**

1. **Prevent initiation of tobacco use especially among youth and young adults**
2. **Promote cessation and assist tobacco users to quit**
3. **Protect people from secondhand smoke**

- Implementation of successful evidence-based interventions that aims to reduce or delay initiation of smoking
- Stricter laws (and enforcement of laws) regulating on who, how and where tobacco products can be purchased; also where and when they can be used
- Restrictions on advertising, flavors, and mandatory health warnings on packages

**Cigarette Use**

**Youth**

- In 2017, **10%** of youth smoked at least one day in last 30 days, compared to 8.8% nationally.

**Adults**

- In 2018, **18%** of adults smoked, compared to 16.1% nationally.

Source: 2017 Youth Risk Behavioral Surveillance System (YRBSS)
2018 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)

**Electronic Nicotine Use**

**Youth**

- In 2017, **40.6%** of youth self-reported use of an electronic nicotine product in their lifetime.

**Adults**

- In 2017, **4.1%** adults self-reported current use of an electronic nicotine product.

Source: 2017 YRBSS
2017 BRFSS

For more information, visit Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services (DAODAS) website at: http://www.daodas.sc.gov/.