Tobacco at a Glance, South Carolina

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.

Source: American Lung Association
Tobaccofreekids.org

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.

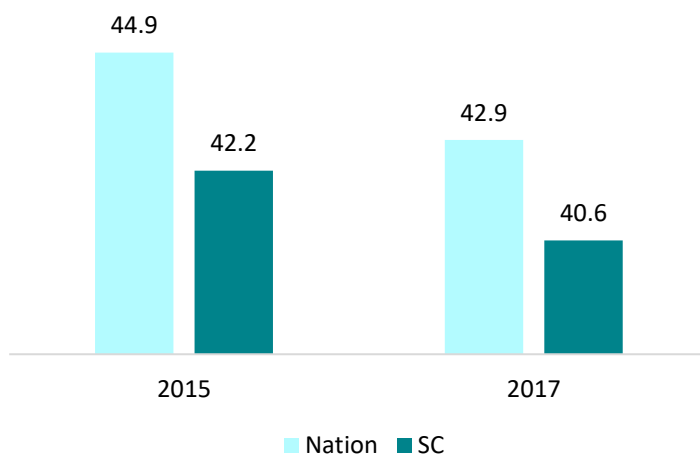Source: 2017 YRBSS
2017 BRFSS

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: Tobaccofreekids.org
Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids

Youth Lifetime Use of Electronic Products (%)

	Nation	SC
2015	44.9	42.2
2017	42.9	40.6

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