

# Secondhand Smoke in Kansas

---

## 2012-2013 Adult Tobacco Survey

The 2012-2013 Kansas Adult Tobacco Survey (ATS) was conducted September 2012 through September 2013 by the Bureau of Health Promotion, Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), with funding support from the Kansas Health Foundation. In total, 9,656 Kansas adults 18 years and older participated in the ATS. This document reviews some of the major findings from the ATS.

### **8.8 percent of Kansas adults were exposed to secondhand smoke at home in the past week.**

- ◇ Secondhand smoke exposure at home is more common among adults with lower annual household income or less education than adults with higher annual household income or more education. Prevalence of exposure in the past week ranges from about 20 percent of adults with an annual household income less than \$15,000 to about 3 percent of adults with an annual household income of \$50,000 or more.
- ◇ The prevalence of secondhand smoke exposure at home in the past week among adults without health insurance (19%) is nearly 3 times the prevalence of secondhand smoke exposure at home in the past week among adults with health insurance (6.8%).

### **16.5 percent of Kansas adults live in households where smoking is allowed.**

- ◇ Previous analyses by KDHE found that children have a lower prevalence of exposure to secondhand smoke if they do not live with a smoker, but even children who do live with a smoker have a reduced prevalence of secondhand smoke exposure if there are household rules preventing smoking inside.<sup>i</sup>
- ◇ Similar to secondhand smoke exposure in the past week, allowing smoking in the home is more common among adults with lower annual household income and lower levels of education.

### **1 in 4 (25.6%) Kansas adults who live in multi-unit housing were exposed to secondhand smoke from inside or outside their residential building in the past year.**

- ◇ 67 percent of Kansas adults who live in multi-unit dwellings favor rules prohibiting smoking in shared common areas.

## **78 percent of adults think smoking should never be allowed indoors in restaurants.**

In 2010, Kansas enacted the Kansas Indoor Clean Air Act (KICAA), prohibiting smoking in most indoor public places. The 2012 Kansas Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System found that 77 percent of adults support the 2010 KICAA.

- ◇ 1 in 5 (20.2%) Kansas workers were exposed to secondhand smoke at work in the past week (includes those who work indoors, outdoors and in vehicles).
- ◇ Exposure to secondhand smoke at work was more common among men (24.4%) than women (15.3%), Hispanic workers (33.4%) than non-Hispanic workers (18.8%) and adults who work outdoors (35.8%) than adults who work in a building (18.3%).
- ◇ 80 percent of adults think it is inappropriate that people smoke in the entryways of buildings or workplaces and 73.8 percent of adults would favor regulation prohibiting smoking in such places.

---

<sup>i</sup> Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Secondhand Smoke Exposure and Smoke-Free Household and Vehicle Rules Among Kansas High School Students. Kansas Health Statistics Report. 2013; 58:1-2. Available at <http://www.kdheks.gov/phi/khsnews/ksr58.pdf>. Accessed January 31, 2014.

