

SECONDHAND SMOKE FACT SHEET



The evidence is clear. There is no safe level of exposure to secondhand tobacco smoke. Secondhand smoke is a serious public health problem, and even the briefest exposure to it is harmful, just take a look at the facts:

- Tobacco use is the single most preventable cause of disease, disability, and death in the United States.
- Seventy-eight percent of Alabamians, as well as a majority (82%) of other Americans, do not smoke.
- Inhaling the dangerous chemicals found in tobacco smoke can be harmful to your health, causing cancer, cardiovascular and pulmonary diseases.
- For every eight smokers killed from using tobacco products, one nonsmoker is killed from secondhand smoke.
- Each year, more than 800 adult non-smokers in Alabama die from exposure to secondhand smoke.
- Everyone, including people that work in bars and restaurants, has the right to breathe smokefree air.
- No ventilation system can remove the harmful elements in secondhand smoke.
- Smokefree worksites protect non-smokers and help smokers quit or reduce their usage.
- Smokefree restaurants have actually been shown to increase profit because of larger groups (often more families) and faster table turnover.
- Eliminating smoking in indoor spaces FULLY protects non-smokers from exposure to secondhand smoke.
- The ONLY effective way to eliminate secondhand smoke exposure is to implement 100% smokefree policies.



For more information, visit
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