

Tobacco Indicators by Health District, Virginia: Data Sources and Notes



Current Cigarette Smoking & Ever Smoked Cigarettes: Virginia Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System. State smoking prevalence rate is based on 2007 data alone. Smoking prevalence rates by health district are based on data from multiple years--2003 through 2007--combined. Percentages are weighted based on population characteristics.

~ Percentage rate not reported due to sample size < 75 cases or cell size < 5 cases or standard error ≥ 5.0 (95% confidence interval half-width ≥ 10 points).

* Comparison by education applies to adults ages 25 and older.

** "Chronic disease" includes having a previous diagnosis or history of diabetes, coronary heart disease, stroke, heart attack, high blood pressure, or asthma.

Smokeless Tobacco Use: Virginia Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System. Smokeless tobacco use prevalence rates and rates of oral cancer examination in the past 12 months by district based on data from multiple years (2004 and 2005) combined; state rates based on 2005 data alone. Percentages are weighted based on population characteristics.

~ Percentage rate not reported due to sample size < 75 cases or cell size < 5 cases or standard error ≥ 5.0 (95% confidence interval half-width ≥ 10 points).

* Comparison by education applies to adults ages 25 and older.

** Represents the percentage of adults ages 40 and older who had an oral cancer examination in the past 12 months.

Workplace Smoking Ban: Virginia Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System. Based on data from multiple years (2003-2007) combined. Percentages are weighted based on population characteristics. Respondents were asked which statement best describes their workplace's official smoking policy for indoor public (or common) areas and work areas. Excludes adults who are not employed in indoor worksites. Rates represent the percentage of employed adults who do not work in an environment with a comprehensive smoke-free policy for both work areas and common areas.

~ Percentage rate not reported due to sample size < 75 cases or cell size < 5 cases or standard error ≥ 5.0 (95% confidence interval half-width ≥ 10 points).

Home Smoking Ban: Virginia Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System. Based on data from multiple years (2003-2007) combined. Percentages are weighted based on population characteristics. Respondents were asked which statement best describes the rules about smoking inside their home. Rates represent the percentage of adults who say that smoking is allowed in all areas, some areas, or there is no rule.

~ Percentage rate not reported due to sample size < 75 cases or cell size < 5 cases or standard error ≥ 5.0 (95% confidence interval half-width ≥ 10 points).

* Includes having a previous diagnosis of diabetes, coronary heart disease, stroke, heart attack, high blood pressure, or asthma.

Smoke-Free Restaurants: Virginia Department of Health, Office of Environmental Health Services Restaurant Inspection Database, February 2009 (restaurant smoking policy status). Includes outdoor facilities (e.g., food carts). Fast food restaurants include school and business cafeterias, convenience stores, facility snack bars, etc.

Chronic Diseases: Virginia Cancer Registry, 2002-2006 (cancer incidence); Virginia Division of Health Statistics, 2003-2007 (cancer and other disease mortality); Virginia Health Information Patient-Level Hospital Discharge Dataset, 2007 (hospital discharge rates). All incidence, mortality and hospital discharge rates are age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard population and per 100,000 population.

The rate is suppressed if the number of new cancer cases (incidence) and deaths (mortality) is less than 26.

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ICD-9-CM codes for analysis of hospital discharges are as follows: ischemic heart disease (410-414, 429.2), other heart disease (390-398, 415-417, 420-429.1, 429.3-429.9), cerebrovascular disease (430-438), pneumonia and influenza (480-487), bronchitis and emphysema (490-492). Discharge rates are based on primary diagnosis only.

ICD-10 codes for analysis of deaths are as follows: trachea, lung and bronchus cancer (C33-C34), lip, oral cavity and pharynx cancer (C00-C14), esophagus cancer (C15), ischemic heart disease (I20-I25), other heart disease (I00-I09, I26-I51), cerebrovascular disease (I60-I69), pneumonia and influenza (J10-J18), bronchitis and emphysema (J40-J42, J43), chronic airway obstruction (J44). Death rates are based on underlying cause of death only.

Demographics: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 population projections (annual population projections); U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census (rural/urban designation for each census tract); U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census (no high school degree among adults 25 and older), updated to 2005 population estimates by Virginia Center for Healthy Communities; U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Estimates Branch, 2007 (poverty); U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Health Insurance Estimates (SAHIE), 2005-2006 (health insurance coverage). **Note:** Rural/urban designation is based on census tract data from the Census Bureau compiled into total rural and urban populations per health district. Districts with a rural/urban ratio above 1.35 are designated as 'rural', districts with a ratio below 0.65 are designated as 'urban', and areas with ratios between 0.65 and 1.35 are designated as 'mixed'.

State Comparisons: Districts that have significantly higher (**H**) or lower (**L**) rates compared to the state average are indicated. With the exception of percentage of restaurants that are non-smoking, indicator rates that are above the state average are at higher risk.