

# Kentucky Tobacco Use Prevention and Cessation Status Report, 2003

## FACT SHEET

### Purpose

**To describe tobacco use and policy patterns in the Commonwealth and in all local health department service areas from 1996 to 2002**

The Status Report 2003 summarizes progress toward the goals and objectives set forth in the Kentucky Tobacco Cessation and Prevention Program Annual Plan, based on the *Healthy Kentuckians 2010* Tobacco Use Objectives.

### **Objective Met:**

The proportion of health departments providing tobacco cessation programs increased to 100% in 2002. There was more than a 150% increase in the number of health departments providing the Cooper Clayton Method to Stop Smoking from 1999 to 2002 (*Objective 3.20d*).

### **Making Progress:**

- While participation in cessation programs jumped dramatically since 1999, the average participation rate was only 38.4 per 10,000 adult smokers in 2002.
- The percent of manufacturing facilities with health plans that reimbursed for smoking cessation increased from 26% in 2000 to 33% in 2002.
- Although the decline in overall youth smoking from 2000 to 2002 was not significant, there was a decline in 7<sup>th</sup> grade smoking from 28% in 2000 to 17% in 2002.
- Illegal tobacco sales to minors decreased significantly from 15.4% in 1997-98 to 5.8% in 2001-02.
- The percent of smoke-free food establishments increased from 32% in 1999 to 39.6% in 2002. This 22% increase in smoke-free food service establishments reflects voluntary policy change since there were no local or state laws restricting smoking in public places during that time.

### **No Progress:**

- There was no change in adult cigarette use, adult quit attempts, or smoking during pregnancy from 1996 to 2001.
- Less than half of Kentucky middle and high schools (45%) prohibited tobacco use on all school grounds in 2001.
- From 1999 to 2002, there was no significant increase in the percentage of manufacturing facilities that prohibited smoking (39% to 46%).

### **Recommendations:**

- Increase the unit price for tobacco products.
- Promote the enactment of local smoke-free laws.
- Engage more tobacco users in cessation attempts by providing a wide range of treatment options including population-based strategies (i.e., quit lines, contests).
- Conduct mass media education campaigns to promote cessation, prevent initiation, and eliminate exposure to secondhand smoke.

The full report is available at [www.mc.uky.edu/tobaccopolicy](http://www.mc.uky.edu/tobaccopolicy)

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