

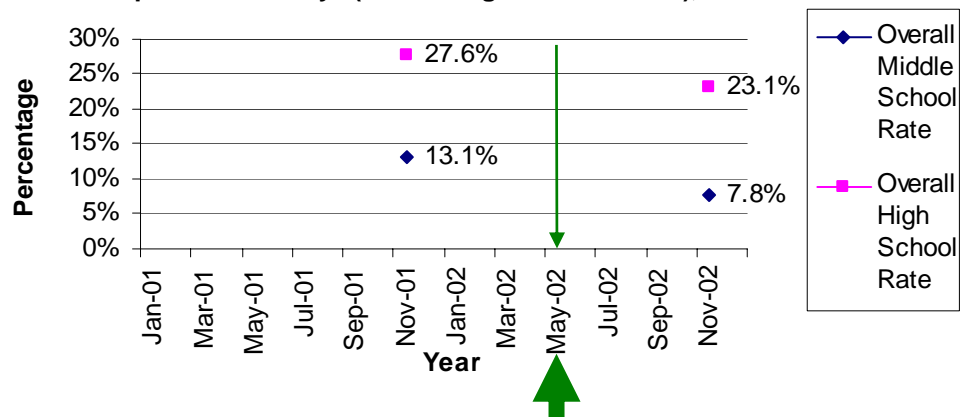


A Program of Washington County Health Partners

Benefits of Reducing Youth Smoking Rates in Pennsylvania

Health benefits and savings are obtained in Pennsylvania for ***each one percentage point decline*** in youth smoking rates (e.g., from new state investments in tobacco use prevention and cessation). The green arrows in the chart below indicate when Pennsylvania's Tobacco Use Prevention and Cessation Programs were funded. Reductions from 2001 to 2002 show a 5.3% reduction in overall middle school student smoking rates and a 4.5% reduction in overall high school rates.¹

Percentage of Pennsylvania public middle and high school students who smoked cigarettes on one or more of the previous 30 days (current cigarette smokers), 2001-2002



These reductions translate into the following benefits:

- ◆ 30,600 fewer current high school smokers
- ◆ 138,670 kids alive today who will not become addicted adult smokers
- ◆ 9,900 of today's high school smokers saved from dying prematurely from smoking
- ◆ 44,590 kids alive today who will not die prematurely from smoking
- ◆ \$1.66 billion dollar reduction to future health costs²

¹ Pennsylvania Department of Health, Youth Tobacco Surveys, 2001 and 2002.

² Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, Benefits and Savings from Each One Percentage Point Decline in Pennsylvania Smoking Rates Factsheet, 1-7-2005.