SELECTED NEW MEXICO TOBACCO-RELATED DATA

Tobacco-Related Beliefs and Attitudes among NM Adults, 2018

- 75.6% of NM adults believe that store owners in NM should be required to have a license to sell tobacco products, similar to alcohol licenses.
- 65.3% of NM adults favor restricting the use of electronic vapor products, such as e-cigarettes, inside public places.
- 75.8% of NM adults favor a $1.50 per pack increase in the state cigarette tax if the money was used to increase funding for health programs and education.
- 80.5% of NM adults favor increasing the tax on other tobacco products (cigars, chewing tobacco, and e-cigs) to a level that would match the tax on cigarettes if the money was used to increase funding for health programs and education.
- 64.1% of NM adults favor raising the legal age to purchase tobacco products, including cigarettes, cigars, e-cigarettes, and chewing tobacco, in New Mexico, from 18 to 21 years.
- 70.5% of NM adults favor giving local governments the ability to pass laws that make it harder for youth to buy tobacco, if local laws don’t conflict with state law.
- 74.2% of NM adults who rent would choose a ‘smoke-free’ rental house or apartment over a place that allows smoking inside (all other things being equal).
- 89.2% of NM adults who rent think that it is okay for landlords to prohibit smoking inside renters’ homes if it is necessary to keep secondhand smoke out of other renters’ homes.
- 58.8% of NM adults who rent would be willing to pay a little more rent if it meant that they could live in a smoke-free property.


Tobacco Use Behaviors among New Mexicans Enrolled in Medicaid

- As of Nov 2018, there were 475,116 NM adults enrolled in Medicaid (3 in 10 adults) [NM Human Services Dept Nov 2018 Medicaid Enrollment Report, 18-64 years old].
- NM Medicaid enrollees smoke cigarettes at nearly twice the rate (27.7%) of people with other forms of health insurance (14.7%) [2014-2016 BRFSS].
- There are an estimated 131,607 NM Medicaid enrollees who smoke cigarettes (475,116 x 27.7%)
- Nearly half (45.6%) of NM adult smokers are enrolled in Medicaid (131,607 smokers on Medicaid / 288,362 total NM smokers).
- Two-thirds (66%) of NM Medicaid enrollees who smoke made a serious quit attempt in the past year (2014-2016 BRFSS).
- 88% of NM Medicaid enrollees who smoke say they are seriously considering quitting in the next six months (2015 BRFSS).
- In FY18, the NM Tobacco Use Prevention and Control (TUPAC) Program provided tobacco cessation services to 2,390 New Mexicans enrolled in Medicaid, representing one in three (32.5%) people served through QUIT NOW and DEJELO YA (TUPAC/Optum, FY18).
- $222.8 million in annual NM Medicaid costs caused by smoking [The Toll of Tobacco in NM fact sheet, 10/09/18].

Suggested Citation for data above: 2018 NM Medicaid and Tobacco Data, analyzed and reported by Tobacco Use Prevention and Control Program, NM Department of Health, available at IBIS – Tobacco.