Tobacco Use in Kittson County

**Youth Tobacco Use*[[1]](#footnote-1)***

##  Youth tobacco use in Kittson County is higher than the state average (22.5% vs. 18.8%)[[2]](#footnote-2).

* + Use of any tobacco product has decreased substantially from 49% in 2007 to 22.5% in 2013.

##  Youth use chewing tobacco in Kittson County at the same rate as the state (7.5% vs.7.6%).

* + Smokeless tobacco use appears to be declining, moving from 29.8% in 2007 to 7.5% in 2013.2

##  85% of youth grades 7-12 in Kittson County youth responding to a survey would like more tobacco-free outdoor spaces such as parks, rinks, ball fields, pools and hockey arenas.[[3]](#footnote-3)

* + 239 youth total: Hallock (99); Lancaster (61); Karlstad (66); Other Locations (13).

**Adult Tobacco Use*[[4]](#footnote-4)***

 **8% of Kittson County adults age 18 and older smoke tobacco regularly (277 individuals).**

* + 15% of adults in the Quin Public Health service region are smokers.

**Adult Smoking Status 2014**

**53% of smokers in Kittson County stopped for one day or more over the past year because they were trying to quit.**

**Healthcare costs associated with smoking are estimated to average $1,046 per year more than non-smokers**.[[5]](#footnote-5)

* + That equates to $290,000 in extra costs for Kittson County healthcare.
	+ Decreased lifespan on average ranges 6-9 years.[[6]](#footnote-6)

**Outdoor Spaces**

* 0 of the cities in Kittson County have adopted no smoking ordinances within city parks (including electronic cigarette use). Clear signage that reads “100% Tobacco-Free Property” can be posted at each park hen a policy is passed.

**Foster Care**

* Recent legislation passed in Minnesota requires that Foster Care providers be smoke free.

**Child Care**

* There are approximately 13 home day cares in Kittson County. All home day cares are voluntarily smoke-free all day, every day.
	+ Federal law prohibits smoking in day care facilities, but this does not apply to child care services provided in private homes[[7]](#footnote-7)

**Point of Sale Compliance Checks**

* Tobacco retail checks were conducted by law enforcement in August, 2014. Of 8 establishments checked, 6 passed (75%) and 2 failed (25%).
* A Tobacco Ordinance along with a Clean Air Ordinance information has been shared with the Kittson County Commissioners. Provisions include language prohibiting electronic cigarette use wherever regular cigarette use is not permitted. No action has been taken.
1. Minnesota Student Survey 2007, 2010, 2013. The percent of youth who use any tobacco product [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Past 30 day use prior to survey administration [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Tobacco Free Communities Student Survey 2014. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. 2014 Northwest Minnesota Region Adult Behavioral Health Survey [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Healthcare expenses in relation to obesity and smoking among U.S. adults by gender, race/ethnicity and age group: 1998-2011. Accessed at: http://www.publichealthjrnl.com/article/S0033-3506%2814%2900292-3/abstract?cc=y [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Mortality and life expectancy in relation to long term cigarette, cigar and pipe smoking. Accessed at: http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2598467/ [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. <http://publichealthlawcenter.org/sites/default/files/resources/phlc-fs-smokefreechildcare-2011.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-7)