



Working to reduce tobacco's impact on Idaho's health



The Impact of Smoke Free Laws in Communities

Post Implementation Surveys demonstrate increased support

- In Illinois the margin of support grew by 10 percentage points in a poll taken six months after implementation of the statewide smoke free workplace law compared to a similar poll conducted a year earlier.¹
- A five percentage point increase in popularity of New York City's smoke free workplace law was found in a survey conducted one year after passage of the law.²
- Twelve months after implementing a statewide smoke free law, survey results showed Wisconsin voters voiced a five percent increase in support.³

Removing smoke from bars has not had a significant adverse impact on revenues.

- Smokefree policies reduce housekeeping and maintenance costs, lower insurance rates and lowers the risk of fires.⁴
- Smokefree laws in Kentucky were found to be unrelated to business openings or closures in alcohol serving establishments and non-alcohol serving establishments alike.⁵
- Data from the Delaware Alcohol Beverage Control Commission shows that the number of restaurants, tavern, and taproom licenses increased in the year following the smokefree law's effective date. Employment in the state's food service and drinking establishments also increased in that time period.⁶
- Support for New York's law has grown even among bar and restaurant owners. James McBratney, President of the Staten Island Restaurant and Tavern Association, was quoted in the Feb. 6, 2005, issue of The New York Times saying, "I have to admit, I've seen no falloff in business in either establishment (restaurant or bar)." According to The Times, "He went on to describe what he once considered unimaginable: Customers actually seem to like it, and so does he."⁷

¹ Greenberg Quinlan Rosner Research survey of 606 registered voters in Illinois conducted 5-28-08 to 6-1-08.

² Global Strategy Group Survey of 500 voter in new Your City 3-21-04 to 3-22-04.

³ Mellman Group and Public Opinion Strategies survey of 500 Wisconsin voter conducted 3-12-08 to 3-16-08.

⁴ Scollo, Michelle and Anita Lal (2004). Summary of Studies Assessing the Economic Impact of Smoke-free Policies in the Hospitality Industry. Melbourne: VicHealth Centre for Tobacco Control. <http://www.vctc.org.au/tc-res/Hospitalitysummary.pdf>.

⁵ Hahn E. et al. *Economic Impact of Lexington's Smoke-free Law: A Progress Report*, University of Kentucky College of Nursing and Gatton College of Business and Economics, April 18, 2005. <http://www2.mc.uky.edu/TobaccoPolicy/UK%20Progress%20Report%20FINAL.pdf>.

⁶ Meconi, Vincent, Secretary of the Delaware Department of Health and Social Services, "Secondhand Smoke Deserves Regulations," *Delaware State News*, (December 30, 2003). See also American Lung Association of Delaware, "Delaware's Clean Indoor Air Act- The 1st Anniversary Story", <http://www.alade.org/main.htm>.

⁷ Rutentert, J. and Koppel, L., "almost Two Years Into Cigarette Ban, New York city Bars Thrive and Many Smokers Shrug," *New York Times*, (February 6, 2005).