7. Secondhand Smoke

The Pennsylvania Adult Tobacco Survey results indicate that Pennsylvanians want restrictions on indoor smoking. Nearly all adults, nonsmokers as well as smokers, favor having restrictions on indoor smoking in work areas, dining areas of restaurants, and indoor shopping malls, as shown in Table 7-1. Nearly seven of every ten Pennsylvanians favor a complete ban on smoking in indoor work areas and indoor shopping malls.

***Table 7-1*. Public Attitudes Regarding Secondhand Smoke, Pennsylvania, 2005**

Site	Favor Some Restriction on Smoking (%) *	Favor Ban on Smoking (%) **
Indoor Work Areas	97 (C.I.:96 – 98)	71 (C.I.:69 – 73)
Dining Area of Restaurant	99 (C.I.:98 – 99)	54 (C.I.:52 – 56)
Indoor Shopping Malls	98 (C.I.:97 – 99)	68 (C.I.:66 – 70)

Source: Pennsylvania Adult Tobacco Survey, 2005, Pennsylvania Department of Health, Division of Tobacco Prevention and Control.

* Includes PA adults who answered a telephone survey and responded that smoking should not be allowed in any area in that site, or that it should be restricted in some areas of that site and 95% confidence interval (C.I.).
** Includes PA adults who answered a telephone survey and responded that smoking should not be allowed in any area of that site and 95% confidence interval (C.I.).

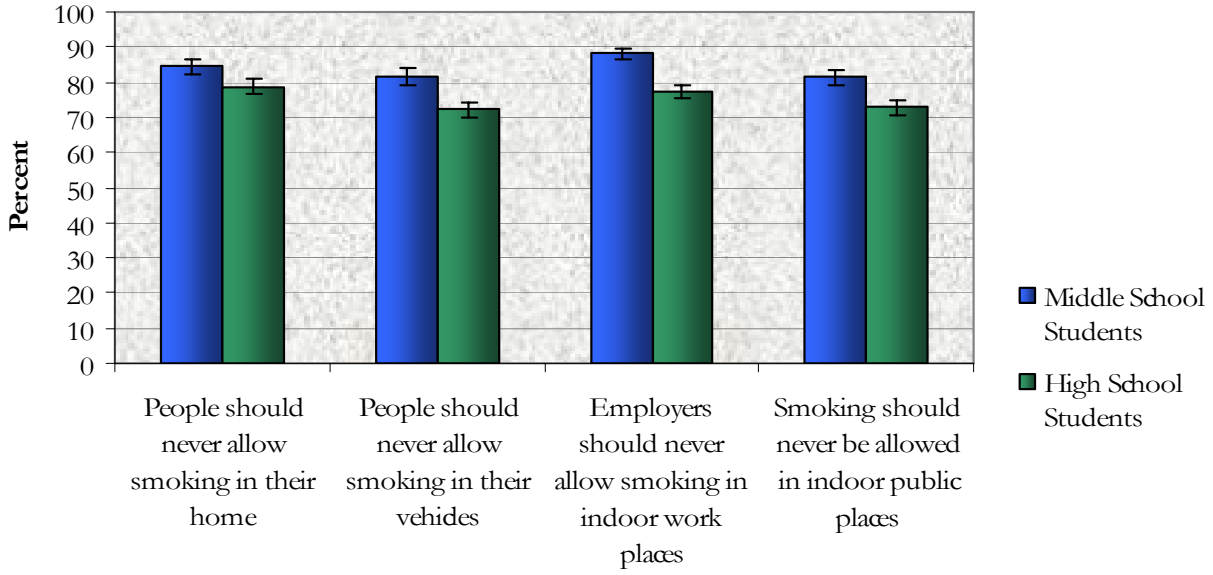
Secondhand Smoke in the Home and the Workplace:

- 71 percent (C.I.:69% – 73%) of Pennsylvania adults surveyed in 2005 prohibited smoking in their home
- In 2005, among Pennsylvania adults with children under the age of 18 at home, 25 percent (C.I.:22% – 28%) allowed smoking in some or all areas of the home.
- Among Pennsylvania adults who work indoors, 92 percent (C.I.:90% – 94%) have restrictions on smoking in at least some areas, and 77 percent (C.I.:74% – 80%) cannot smoke in any work area.

Source: Pennsylvania Adult Tobacco Survey, 2005, Pennsylvania Department of Health, Division of Tobacco Prevention and Control.

Several new questions were added to the Youth Tobacco Survey for the 2006-2007 school year. Students were asked about their beliefs regarding allowing smoking in indoor places or vehicles. Approximately 85 percent of middle school students and almost 80 percent of high school students thought that smoking should not be allowed in their homes. Regarding smoking in public places, such as malls, movie theatres, clubs or restaurants, over eight out of ten middle school students and over seven out of ten high school students thought smoking should not be permitted.

***Chart 7-2*. Students' Beliefs about Smoking Indoors or in Vehicles Pennsylvania, 2006-2007**

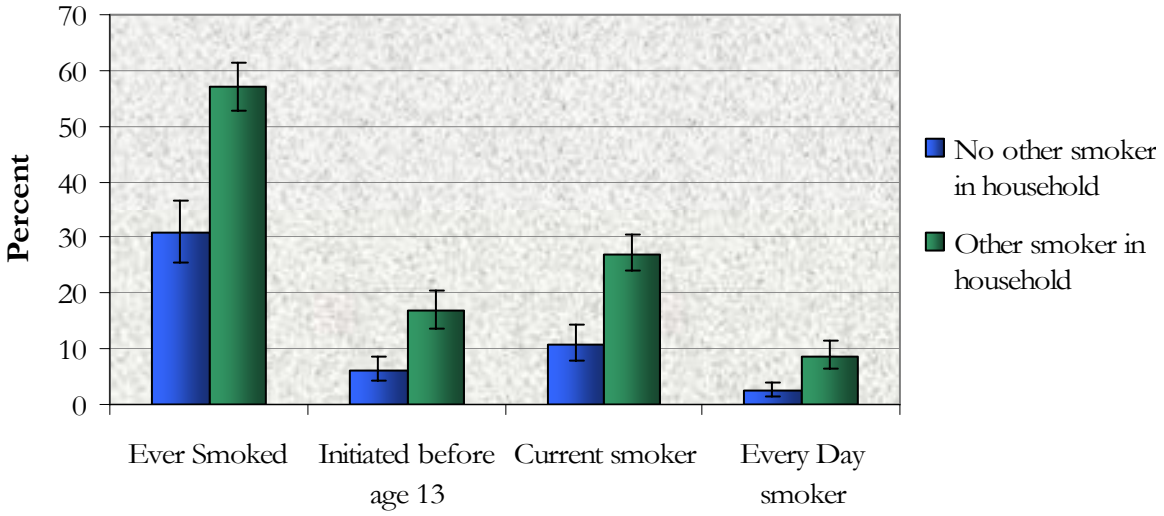


Source: Pennsylvania Youth Tobacco Survey, 2006-2007, Pennsylvania Department of Health, Division of Tobacco Control and Prevention.

I denotes 95% confidence interval.

The presence of others in the household who smoke has a tremendous effect on youth's cigarette use. High school students who participated in the Youth Tobacco Survey were asked if there were other smokers in their home. Students who lived with another smoker were over twice as likely to smoke, as shown in the chart below. The presence of other smokers in the household was associated with much higher percentages of ever having tried a cigarette; these students were more than twice as likely to have started smoking before thirteen years old; and, they were over three times as likely to be every day smokers.

***Chart 7-3*. Effects on High School Students of Other Smokers in the Household Pennsylvania, 2006-2007**



Source: Pennsylvania Youth Tobacco Survey, 2006-2007, Pennsylvania Department of Health, Division of Tobacco Control and Prevention.
I denotes 95% confidence interval.