

Western Wisconsin Working for Tobacco-Free Living

www.W3TFL.org

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Quarterly Coalition Meeting!

Hello everyone; W3TFL will be meeting quarterly in 2016. The dates are listed below so mark your calendars!

- **Thursday March 17th 10:00 AM**
- Thursday June 16th 10:00 AM
- Thursday September 15th 10:00 AM
- Thursday December 15th 10:00AM

****The meeting will be held at the Polk County Health Department. 100 Polk County Plaza Balsam Lake WI 54810.***

Broken Promises to Our Children: A State-by-State Look at the Tobacco Settlement 17 Years Later

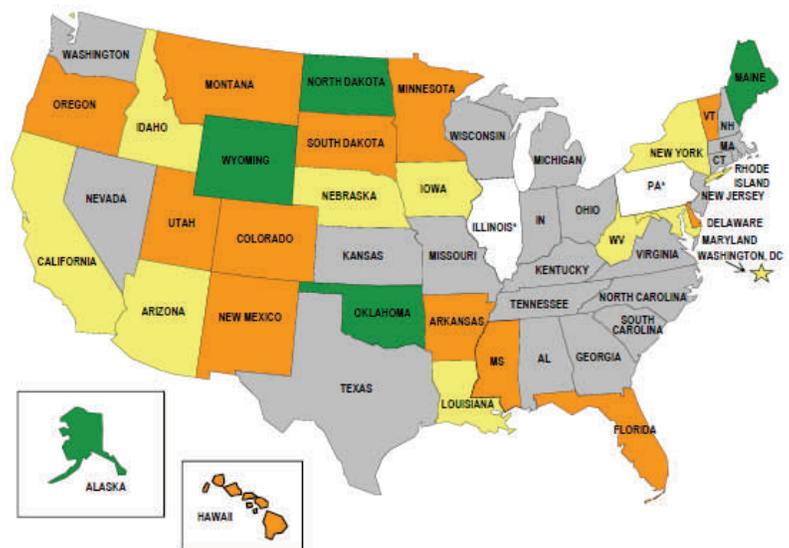
Since the states settled their lawsuits against the major tobacco companies in 1998, the Campaign for Tobacco Free kid's annual reports have assessed whether the states are keeping their promise to use a significant portion of their settlement funds – estimated at \$246 billion over the first 25 years – to attack the enormous public health problems caused by tobacco use in the United States.

Despite the huge sums they get from the tobacco settlement and billions more they collect in tobacco taxes, the states continue to shortchange tobacco prevention and cessation programs that are proven to save lives and money.

In the current budget year, Fiscal Year 2016, the states will collect \$25.8 billion from the settlement and taxes. But they will spend only 1.8 percent of it – \$468 million – on programs to prevent kids from smoking and help smokers quit.

This giant gap is undermining efforts to save lives and health care dollars by reducing tobacco use, the number one cause of preventable death in the United States.

View the full report at: <http://www.tobaccofreekids.org/microsites/statereport2016/>



Other Tobacco Products (OTPs) Presentations

If your organization/group is interested in learning more about other tobacco products (OTPs), please contact Elizabeth. We would love to come and do a presentation to spread the word!

National Survey Shows Youth Cigarette Smoking Again Falls to Record Low, but E-Cigarettes and Cigars Threaten Progress

In terrific news for the nation's health, the government-sponsored Monitoring the Future survey released this month shows that the steep, decades-long decline in youth cigarette smoking continues, with smoking rates falling to record lows in 2015 among all three grades surveyed (grades 8, 10 and 12).

Conventional cigarettes: For all three grades combined, the percentage of students who reporting smoking cigarettes in the prior 30 days fell from 8 percent in 2014 to 7 percent in 2015 – a statistically significant drop. Past-month smoking fell to 3.6 percent among 8th graders, 6.3 percent among 10th graders and 11.4 percent among 12th graders, all record lows.

Long-term trends are especially dramatic. Since peaking around 1996-1997, smoking rates have fallen by 83 percent among 8th graders, 79 percent among 10th graders and 69 percent among 12th graders. Daily cigarette use has fallen even more steeply, with just 5.5 percent of 12th graders reporting daily smoking in 2015.

E-cigarettes and little cigars: In all three grades, e-cigarette use far exceeded regular cigarette use in the past 30 days – 9.5 percent to 3.6 percent among 8th graders, 14 percent to 6.3 percent among 10th graders and 16.2 percent to 11.4 percent among 12th graders. These results also indicate e-cigarettes are more likely to be a pathway to tobacco addiction than away from it. More than half of students said their primary reasons for using e-cigarettes was to experiment and more than 30 percent said it was because they tasted good, while less than 10 percent said they used e-cigarettes to help quit regular cigarettes.

Teens reported smoking flavored little cigars at the same rate as cigarettes, with 11.4 percent of 12th graders reporting use of flavored little cigars in the past 30 days. When both cigarettes and flavored cigarillos are included, smoking rates in the past 30 days increased to 6.6 percent among 8th graders, 9.8 percent among 10th graders and 17.8 percent among 12th graders.

The findings of this survey are an important new tool to educate your community on the popularity of e-cigarettes among youth. You can read more on the story at <http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2015/12/16/survey-teens-still-intrigued-e-cigarettes/77363202/>.



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Amery FACT Youth

Spreading the Truth about tobacco