

# Oregon Tobacco Facts in Brief

Tobacco use affects all Oregonians. It is the leading cause of preventable disease and death in Oregon and across the country. Nationally, tobacco kills more people than alcohol, AIDS, car accidents, illegal drugs, murders and suicides — combined (1).

## OREGON TOBACCO'S TOLL IN ONE YEAR



**529,600** Adults who regularly smoke cigarettes (2)

**235,290** People with a serious illness caused by tobacco (2)



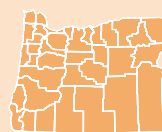
**8,000**

Tobacco-related deaths (3)



**\$1.5 billion**

Spent on tobacco-related medical care (1)



**Population (4)**

Youths: 866,879

Adults: 3,328,421

Total residents: 4,195,300

**\$1.4 billion**

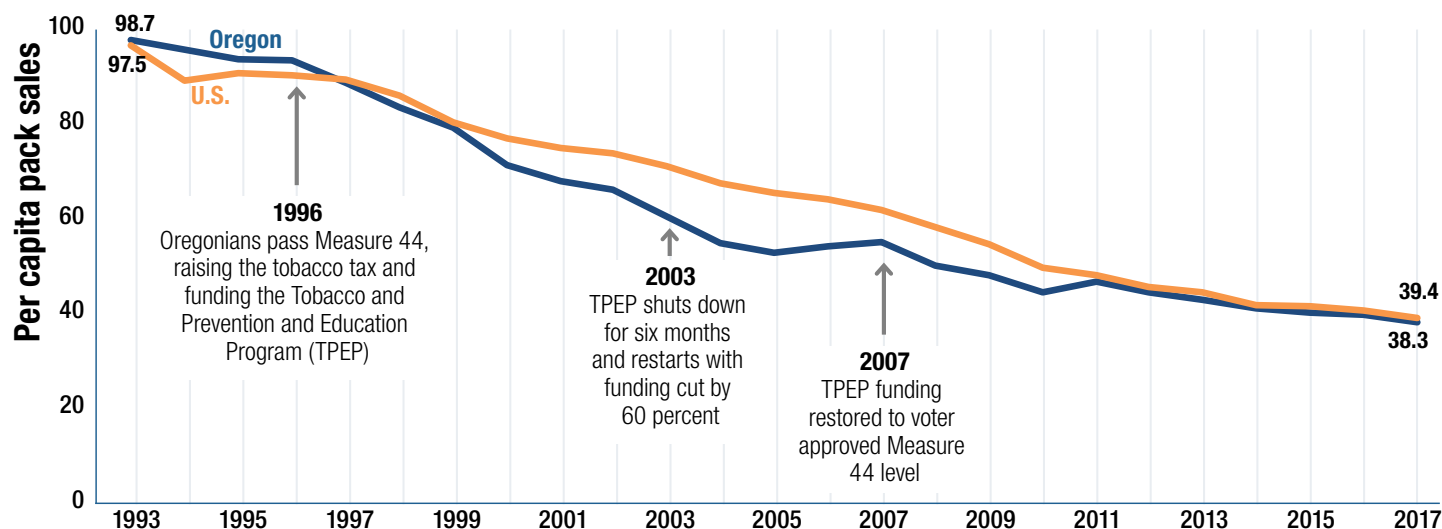
In productivity losses due to premature tobacco-related deaths (1)

Oregon's Tobacco Prevention and Education Program (TPEP) uses a sustained, comprehensive approach to support tobacco prevention and cessation in every community.

For more than 20 years, TPEP's approach has contributed to improved tobacco-related health

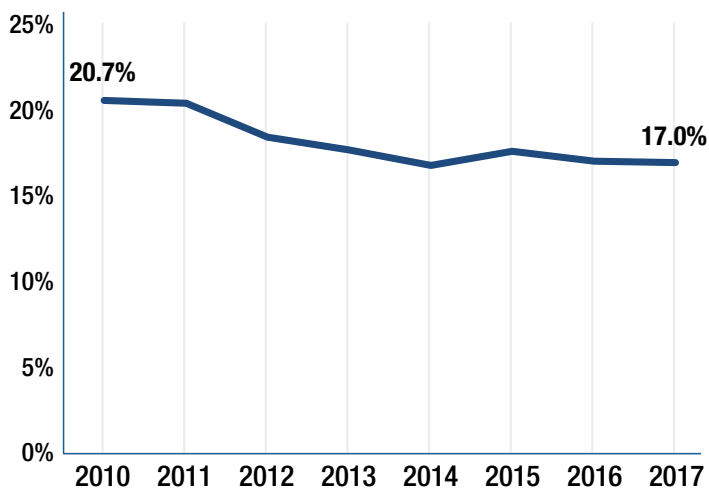
outcomes in Oregon. Since the program began, cigarette consumption in Oregon — as measured by per capita cigarette sales — has declined by more than 55 percent (Figure 1). When TPEP program funding was nearly eliminated in 2003, the state lost ground, and tobacco consumption ticked slightly up.

**Figure 1. Per capita cigarette pack sales, Oregon and the United States, 1993–2017**



Source: Orzechowski W and Walker RC. The tax burden on tobacco. Historical compilation Volume 52, 2017. Fairfax and Richmond, Virginia.

**Figure 2. Adult cigarette smoking, Oregon, 2010-2017**



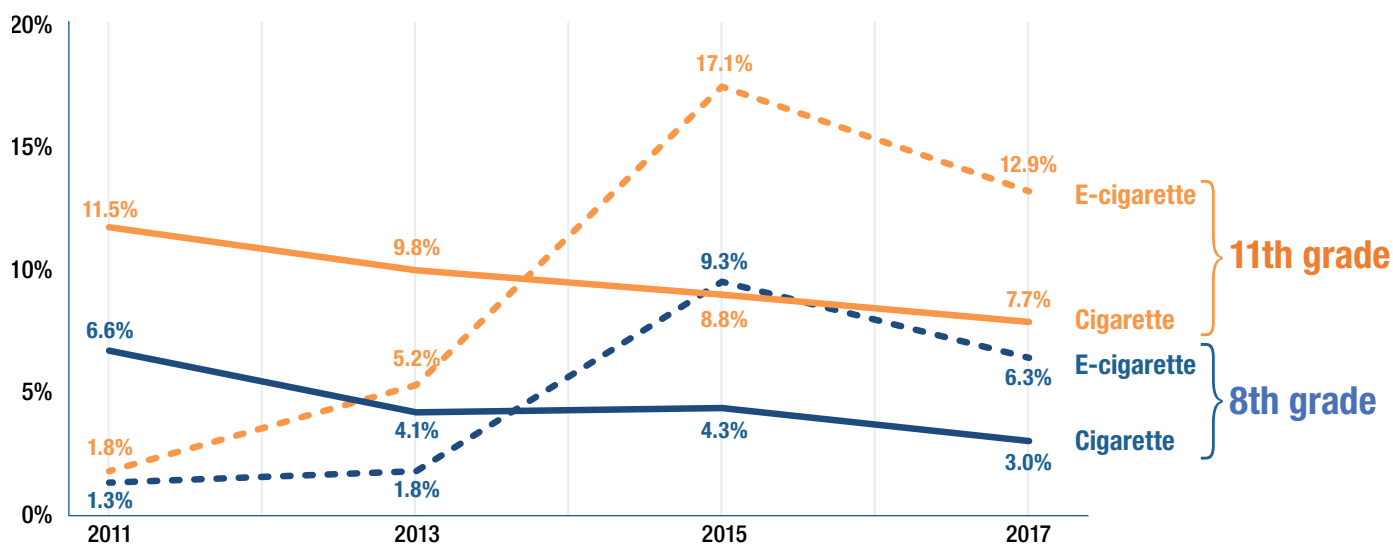
Source: Oregon Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS).

Cigarette smoking in Oregon has declined by nearly 22 percent since TPEP started. However, 17 percent of Oregon adults still smoke cigarettes (Figure 2).

Large disparities persist in those who use tobacco and have the highest burden of tobacco-related illness. Groups with high rates of smoking include Oregonians with low income (28 percent); less than a high school degree (31 percent); Oregon Health Plan members (27 percent); Native Americans and Alaska Natives (30 percent); and African Americans (26 percent) (5).

New products such as inhalant delivery systems, also known as e-cigarettes, are a public health challenge. Youth e-cigarette use has increased dramatically in recent years. E-cigarettes are now the most common tobacco product Oregon youth use (Figure 3). Strong evidence shows many youth who use e-cigarettes will go on to use combustible cigarettes (6).

**Figure 3. Youth cigarette and e-cigarette use in Oregon, 2011-2017**



Source: Oregon Healthy Teens Survey.

1. Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids. The toll of tobacco in Oregon. [cited 2019 Feb 26.] Available at: <https://www.tobaccofreekids.org/problem/toll-us/oregon>.
2. Oregon Health Authority. Estimates calculated using 2017 Oregon Vital Statistics Annual Reports and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention smoking-related illness estimation.
3. Oregon Health Authority Public Health Division. Oregon vital statistics annual reports, volume 2: chapter 6. Mortality. Table 6-20. [cited 2019 Feb 26.] Available at: <http://www.oregon.gov/oha/ph/BirthDeathCertificates/VitalStatistics/annualreports/Volume2/Pages/index.aspx>.
4. County population data. Portland State University. Oregon population estimates, 2018. [cited 2019 April 30.] Available at: <https://www.pdx.edu/prc/population-reports-estimates>.
5. Oregon Health Authority. Oregon Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS).
6. National Academy of Sciences. Public health consequences of e-cigarettes. A consensus study report of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. Washington, D.C. National Academy of Sciences, Board on Population Health and Public Health Practice, Health and Medicine Division, January 2018.