

Increasing Cigarette Taxes Reduces Smoking

Adapted from the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids Fact Sheet¹

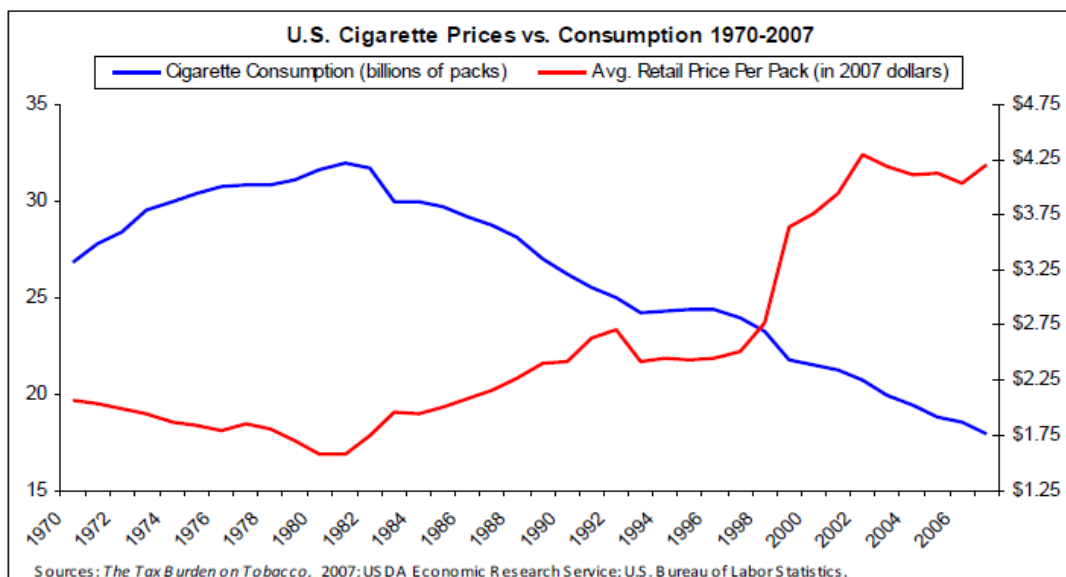
Overview

- Increases in cigarette prices lead to significant reductions in cigarette smoking.²
- Increased taxation is the single most effective way to reduce smoking.³

Data

- Every 10% increase in the total price of a pack of cigarettes ...^{1,3}
 - Reduces overall cigarette consumption by approximately 3% to 5%;
 - Reduces the number of young-adult smokers by 3.5%;
 - Reduces the number of youth who smoke by 6% to 7%; and
 - Reduces the number of pregnant women who smoke by 7%, preventing thousands of miscarriages and still-born births, and saving tens of thousands of newborns from suffering from smoking-affected births and related health consequences.⁴
- Special Populations
 - Cigarette price and tax increases work even more effectively to reduce smoking among males, Blacks, Hispanics, and lower-income smokers.⁵

United States Cigarette Consumption compared to Average Retail Price per pack, 1970-2007



Conclusions

- By reducing smoking levels, cigarette tax increases reduce secondhand smoke exposure among nonsmokers, especially children and pregnant women.
- Raising tobacco-product prices decreases the prevalence of tobacco use, particularly among kids and young adults, and produce “substantial long-term improvements in health.”⁶

1. Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids. Raising Cigarette Taxes Reduces Smoking, Especially Among Kids (And The Cigarette Companies Know It). October 11, 2012. Available at: <http://www.tobaccofreekids.org/research/factsheets/pdf/0146.pdf>
2. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Preventing Tobacco Use Among Youth and Young Adults: A Report of the Surgeon General. Atlanta: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Office on Smoking and Health, 2012 [Accessed 2014 Feb 6].
3. U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Economic facts about U.S. Tobacco Production and Use. 2014 [Accessed 2014 Sept 19]
4. Ringel, J & Evans, W, “Cigarette Taxes and Smoking During Pregnancy,” *American Journal of Public Health* 91(11):1851-6, 2001.
5. U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), “Responses to Cigarette Prices By Race/Ethnicity, Income, and Age Groups – United States 1976-1993,” *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* 47(29):605-609, July 31, 1998,
6. <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/00054047.htm>. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, *Reducing Tobacco Use: A Report of the Surgeon General*, 2000, http://profiles.nlm.nih.gov/NN/B/B/L/Q/_/nnbblq.pdf.