Fifty years ago, the first Surgeon General’s Report on smoking and health linked smoking with poor health outcomes, spurring tobacco control efforts across the United States. In the past 50 years, smoking rates in the United States have been cut in half; however, smoking still causes nearly 500,000 premature deaths each year.

A CLOSER LOOK AT TOBACCO USE IN OUR COMMUNITY

Decline in Smoking

The percentage of adults in Larimer County who smoke cigarettes was cut in half between 1995 and 2016.

1995: 19%
2016: 8%

However, while cigarette smoking is down, the proportion of smokers considering quitting has also decreased.

Income

Adults with household incomes at or below 185% of the Federal Poverty Level were more likely to use tobacco products than those with higher incomes.

PERCENT OF TOBACCO USERS, BY INCOME

LOWER INCOME: 15%
HIGHER INCOME: 11%

Gender

Males are more likely to use cigars, pipes, and smokeless tobacco or chew. Males and females use cigarettes and e-cigarettes at a similar percentage.

USE OF VARIOUS TOBACCO TYPES, BY GENDER

- **Cigarettes**: Male 7%, Female 9%
- **Cigars**: Male 5%, Female 1%
- **Smokeless tobacco**: Male 4%, Female 5%
- **E-cigarettes**: Male 3%, Female 2%

How Do We Compare?

- **8% of Larimer County Adults Smoke**
- **16% of Colorado Adults Smoke**
- **18% of American Adults Smoke**

Source: *2015 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System*

Trying to Quit Using Tobacco?

Visit us online at: healthdistrict.org/quitsmoking or call 970-224-5209 for information about the Health District’s Quit Tobacco Program.
1 in 5 cigarette smokers has a child 17 or under in the home.

Cigarette smoking poses a risk not only for the smoker, but also for others present, including children.

Secondhand Smoke

While cigarette smoking rates dropped, the proportion of smokers considering quitting in the next 6 months also decreased, from 66% in 2013 to 51% in 2016.

Of those with household incomes at or below 185% of the Federal Poverty Level, fewer reported they were thinking of quitting.

More males are planning on quitting, 73%, compared to 34% of females.

Intent to Quit Smoking Among Current Smokers

Overall, 7% of survey respondents reported living with someone who smokes cigars, cigarettes, or tobacco pipes inside their home. Households with children were less than half as likely to have someone smoking inside the home.

Percent of Households with Smoking in the Home, by Child Status

Smoking Policy

Overall, 79% of respondents were in favor of policies that would prohibit smoking in outdoor public areas such as restaurant patios, recreation areas, or playgrounds. Non-smokers were more likely to be in favor of a smoking restriction policy (at 82%) than cigarette smokers (at 45%).

“Would you favor or oppose policies that would prohibit smoking in outdoor public areas?”

Find more data at larimerhealthtracker.org