

III. KEY MEASURE ANALYSIS

Agency Mission: Assisting people to become independent, healthy and safe.

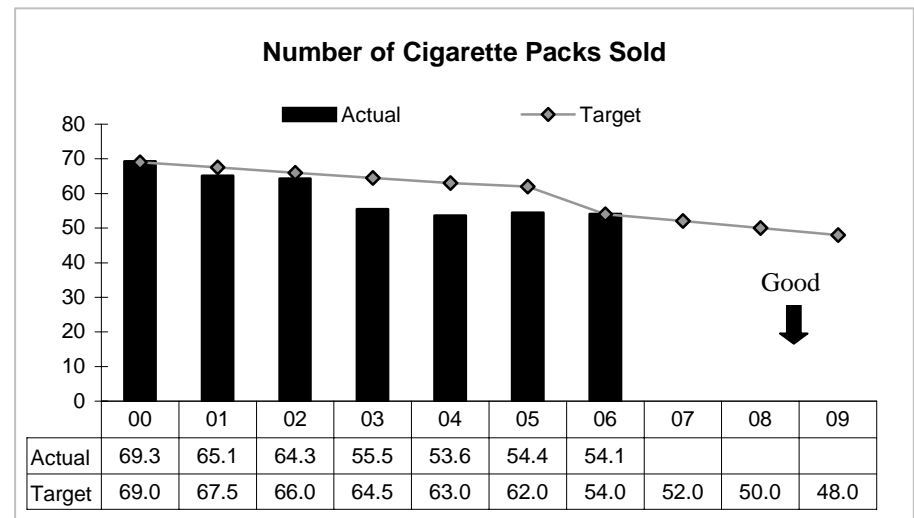
KPM #21	CIGARETTE PACKS SOLD Number of cigarette packs sold per capita.	Measure since: 2002
Goal	People are healthy.	
Oregon Context	Adult non-smokers, Preventable death, Teen substance abuse, Alcohol / tobacco use during pregnancy	
Data source	Oregon Department of Revenue (Cigarette Tax Receipts); Portland State University, Population Research Center (Population Estimates)	
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1. **OUR STRATEGY**

One of the main goals of the Tobacco Prevention and Education Program (TPEP) is to reduce tobacco use by adults. This goal is accomplished through county and tribal-based programs, the Oregon Tobacco Quit Line, multicultural outreach and education, a statewide public awareness and education program, program evaluation and statewide coordination and leadership. No single component of the TPEP is solely responsible for reducing per capita cigarette consumption – it takes a comprehensive approach to effectively decrease tobacco use.

2. **ABOUT THE TARGETS**

Tobacco use is the leading preventable cause of death in Oregon and the nation. Cigarette smoking is the most common form of tobacco use. Quitting tobacco or reducing the amount smoked has significant health benefits. Reductions in the number of cigarette packs sold per capita results from two distinct phenomena: an increase in former smokers, and a decrease in the quantity of cigarettes smoked among continuing smokers. It is clear that reducing the per capita packs of cigarettes sold will lead to substantial improvement in people’s health, both in the short-term and long-term.



3. **HOW WE ARE DOING**

In 2006, the number of cigarette packs sold in Oregon was 54.1 packs per capita. Although this measure is only slightly higher than the desired target for 2006, this measure has leveled off since 2003. These data points are of concern because they represent a deviation from the previous, desirable trend.

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4. HOW WE COMPARE

In 1997, prior to the TPEP's inception, Oregon had greater per capita sales of cigarette packs than the rest of the country (92.1 – Oregon, 87.2 – U.S.). In 2005, conversely, U.S. per capita sales of cigarette packs was 61.6. The current difference between Oregon and the U.S. represents a much steeper decline in per capita cigarette sales in Oregon, on average, than in the rest of the country. Nonetheless, Oregon's per capita pack sales in 2005 were nearly double those of Washington (35.8) and California (33.1), our neighboring states that have dedicated significant resources to tobacco prevention activities.

5. FACTORS AFFECTING RESULTS

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Office of Smoking and Health has developed an evidence-based funding model for countering the health and economic destruction of tobacco use. The recommended model funds programs to prevent initiation of tobacco use among young people, to promote quitting among adults and young people, and to eliminate nonsmokers' exposure to secondhand smoke. For Oregon, the minimum recommended funding for tobacco prevention is \$6.51 per capita, which is more than \$24 million annually. This recommendation represents just a fraction of the cost of tobacco use, with more than \$2 billion lost to medical care and lost productivity annually in Oregon. Despite the recommendation, Oregon currently receives \$2 per capita for tobacco prevention from all funding sources. For most of the 2001-2003 biennium, the TPEP received approximately \$2.87 per capita per year. However, in April 2003, the Legislature stopped funding TPEP for the remainder of the biennium. Although TPEP funding has recently increased back to those approved by the voters in 1996, Oregon today spends only one-third of the CDC recommended minimum on tobacco prevention. After funding decreased in 2003, smoking among pregnant women and adolescents stopped decreasing, and per capita consumption of cigarettes increased – for the first time since the program was first implemented.

6. WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE

Studies in Oregon and in other states have shown that decreases in funding for tobacco prevention lead to decreased success in reducing tobacco use. To reverse troubling tobacco use trends, funding for a comprehensive tobacco control program would need to be increased substantially. Prior successes in Oregon and a substantial evidence-base from elsewhere tell us that a comprehensive program is the most effective means to counter these trends.

7. ABOUT THE DATA

Reporting cycle – calendar year. Average per capita consumption is estimated annually by calendar year based on tobacco tax revenue collected by the Oregon Department of Revenue (DOR). The DOR's Monthly Receipt Statements include data on tax collections derived from sales of cigarettes. The number of packs of cigarettes sold is calculated by dividing the cigarette tax receipts by the tax rate per pack. The number of packs per capita is calculated by dividing the total number of cigarettes sold within the calendar year by the total population estimate for Oregon.

Advantages associated with these data are that they allow comparisons with national and other state estimates of consumption, which similarly rely on tax revenue data and population estimates. In addition, this estimator does not depend upon accurate self-reporting of smoking behavior. A disadvantage associated with this estimator is that the per capita consumption is based on the entire state population, including non-smokers, so it does not depict actual smokers' consumption levels. Another disadvantage is that packs of cigarettes purchased by Oregon consumers without taxes being collected (i.e., over the Internet, through mail order, in other states, or illegally in Oregon without tax) are not counted in this estimate. TPEP estimates that untaxed cigarettes represent a small fraction of the cigarettes Oregon smokers consume.