

Benefits of Tobacco 21



Protects kids



- In suburban Cook County, 1 in 3 high school seniors has used tobacco.¹
- Kids who use tobacco commonly get it from people between ages 18-20.²
- The brain is still developing during the late teens and early 20s, and the probability of nicotine addiction is especially high during this time.²
- Youth addicted to nicotine are 7 times more likely to have a drug use disorder.³



Proven to work



- People who have not used tobacco by age 21 are unlikely to ever start.²
- Research shows that a sales age of 21 across the U.S. could result in:
 - 249,000 fewer premature deaths
 - 286,000 fewer pre-term births
 - 438,000 fewer babies with low birth weight²



Pays off



- Smoking-related illnesses hurt our health and wealth. Hospital patients who smoke have longer stays and higher medical costs than non-smokers.²
- A sales age of 21 across the U.S. would save society an estimated \$212 billion dollars over a 50-year period.⁴



Popular across the USA



- 75% of adults support raising the age of 21, including 70% of smokers.⁵
- California, Hawaii, & more than 200 U.S. cities have already raised the age to 21.

#Tobacco21

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