

Smoke Free Illinois

Reduced Hospitalizations Summary

Since the passage of the Smoke Free Illinois Act

- Since Smoke Free Illinois (SFI) went into effect on January 1, 2008, **there has been a substantial decrease in tobacco-related hospitalizations and healthcare costs.**
- A recent examination of hospitalizations in Illinois during the subsequent two-year period in 2008-2009, has found that **hospitalizations for tobacco-related diseases are well below those of the two years prior to the SFI Act**, with heart disease admissions showing the greatest decline.
- More than 30,200 heart disease hospitalizations among Illinois residents are estimated to have been prevented because of the Smoke Free Illinois Act.
 - This amounts to an estimated savings of \$1.18 billion in hospital costs alone as **the average charge for heart disease admissions is nearly \$39,000.**
- Hospitalization for acute myocardial infarctions or heart attacks declined 4.4% after passage of the SFI. **This represents an estimated cost savings of almost \$84 million during the two years post-SFI.**
- Hospitalizations for ischemic heart disease declined 20.8% after passage of the Smoke Free Illinois Act. **This represents an estimated cost savings of \$859 million during the two years post-SFI.**
- Hospitalization for congestive heart failure declined 7.8% after passage of the SFI Act. **This represents an estimated cost savings of \$195.3 million during the two years post-SFI.**

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Healthcare Savings Summary

Since the passage of the Smoke Free Illinois Act

Type of Hospitalization for Known Tobacco-Related Heart Conditions	Percentage Decrease	Estimated number of prevented hospitalizations	Healthcare Cost Savings
Heart Disease TOTAL	9.3%	30,240	\$1.18 billion
Heart Attacks	4.4%	1,344	\$83.9 million
Congestive Heart Failure	7.8%	6,008	\$195.3 million
Coronary (ischemic) heart disease	20.8%	15,382	\$859 million
Other heart disease including angina and chest pain	5.9%	7,512	\$37.7 million

WHAT IMPLICATIONS DO THESE RESULTS HAVE?

- The Smoke Free Illinois Act has reduced the risk of debilitating or fatal cardiovascular disease for thousands of Illinoisans and this is saving millions of dollars in estimated direct health care costs.
- The benefits of the Smoke Free Illinois Act are increasing each year as more people are protected from exposure to secondhand smoke.
- It is important to protect the law and ensure that it is adequately enforced if these benefits are to continue. This requires a well-funded tobacco prevention and control program implementing evidence-based programs as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

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Quick Health Facts

About smoking-related disease in Illinois

- The Smoke Free Illinois Act, enacted in 2008, prohibits smoking in all indoor places and workplaces including bars and restaurants. Illinois was the 22nd state to go smoke-free and as of January 2011, there are currently 30 smoke-free states. The Smoke Free Illinois Act protects the health of all workers in the state. No group is excluded from protection.
- Acute myocardial infarctions, or heart attacks, are a leading cause of death for men and women worldwide, and one of the leading and most costly causes of hospitalization. Heart attack admissions declined by over 1,300 estimated cases after SFI.
- Coronary (ischemic) heart disease is the underlying cause of heart attacks. There were more than 15,000 fewer estimated coronary admissions after SFI was enacted. And an additional 7,500 fewer cases of other heart conditions including angina and non-specific chest pain.
- Congestive heart failure admissions declined by an estimated 6,000 cases after SFI. More than 3 million Americans have this progressive and disabling disease and 30-40% are hospitalized every year.

