

A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

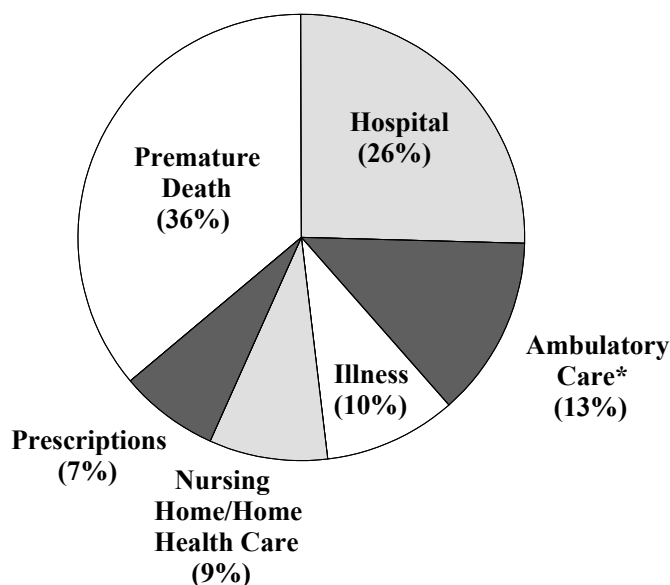
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Smoking Cost California an Estimated \$15.8 Billion in 1999, Majority of Costs Due to Premature Death

Smoking cost California residents an estimated \$15.8 billion—\$475 per resident—in 1999, according to a study of the direct and indirect costs of smoking in California. The majority of these costs were attributable to premature death (36%), followed by hospitalizations (26%) and ambulatory care, including physician and other professional services (13%; see figure below). Despite the high costs associated with smoking, 19% of adults and 8% of adolescents in California smoke. The authors estimate that if smokers were to pay for all of the costs of their smoking, the price of cigarettes would have to increase by \$11.34 per pack.

Costs Associated With Smoking in California, 1999

(Total Cost=an estimated \$15.8 billion)



*Ambulatory care includes physician office services, emergency department care, and the services of chiropractors, outpatient mental health providers, and optometrists.

NOTE: Percentages do not add to 100% due to rounding.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from Max W., Rice D. P., Zhang X., Sung H-Y., Miller. "The Cost of Smoking in California," California Department of Health Services, 2002. Available online at <http://www.dhs.ca.gov/tobacco/documents/CostOfSmoking1999.pdf>.

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